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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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11 January 1985

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SOVIET AMBASSADOR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Nov 84 p 12

[Article by Lollo Agostinho: "The Ambassador of the USSR Has Spoken on the October Revolution"]

[Text] In connection with 67th anniversary of the great socialist revolution of October, an occasion that will be commemorated on 7 November and which radically transformed the entire march of mankind's historic development, opening a new period of transition from capitalism to socialism, Arnold Kalinin, ambassador of the USSR, held a press conference at the Anibal de Melo Press Center.

This important event, which marks the triumph of the revolutions for national liberation and the collapse of the imperialist colonial systems, began in 1917, when the workers of Russia, led by the party of Lenin, crushed the power of the exploiting class, created the first state of workers and peasants in the world, and began the construction of a society based on social justice. The October revolution is unmatched from the standpoint of its influence on the march of world history. It aroused the spirit of revolution in the working masses of all countries and continents, it put to work the powerful forces of social progress, which, in a period that was historically brief, changed the face of the planet.

After analyzing the long historic past of the Soviet people and the red army, the diplomat told the journalists that the great victory over fascism, the 40th anniversary of which will be celebrated throughout the world in 1985, was and continues to be a good lesson and a stern warning to all those who like to engage in warlike adventures, for, he concluded, they will be inevitably and completely defeated.

With reference to the great victories achieved by the Soviet people in recent years, the ambassador of the USSR reported that the 26th Convention of the CPSU, after studying the significance of the construction, development and perfecting of genuine socialist society for the peaceful future of all mankind, outlined a concrete program of creative actions embracing every aspect of life, ranging from the development of the forces of production to the matter of ideology. "At the present time, only two days are needed to produce what was turned out in the period of an entire year before the revolution, a fact which

confirms the first-rank position held by the Soviet Union on the world scale in the production of oil, the mining of iron ore, the production of mineral fertilizers, tractors, cement, locomotives and certain other products."

On the question of the positive political line of the Soviet Union with regard to Africa, ambassador Kalinin laid stress on a statement made by Konstantin Chernenko, secretary general of the CPSU, in which he asserts that the attitude of the USSR with respect to African problems is a frank one, based on principles that do not foster interests of any sort that oppose the aspirations of the Africans themselves, and, at the same time, is decidedly adverse to the transformation of this continent into a stage for global or, more than that, military confrontation.

Continuing on the same topic, the Soviet diplomat went on to say that his country declares itself in favor of the immediate granting of genuine independence to Namibia, based on the implementation of the decisions of the U.N. in their totality, including resolution 435 of the United Nations Security Council and the transferral of the power to the patriotic forces of Namibia, which are represented by SWAPO, the only legitimate representative of their country.

"There is no doubt that the people of Namibia, with the support of Progressive Africa and the entire international community, will achieve independence."

With regard to the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the RPA [People's Republic of Angola], the Soviet ambassador expressed his pride as he witnessed the deep appreciation shown for the internationalist labors of the Soviet doctors, builders of power bridges, professors and pilots, who, at the side of internationalists from Cuba and other countries of the socialist community, are making a substantial contribution to the efforts of the Angolan people in the areas of national reconstruction and defense against foreign aggression.

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CSO: 3442/85

USSR DAY OBSERVED AT INTERNATIONAL FAIR IN LUANDA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] The national day of the Soviet Union at the Luanda International Fair-FILDA-84 was observed yesterday in a ceremony presided over by Arnold Kalinin, the ambassador of the USSR accredited in our country.

The ceremony, which was held in the area occupied by the Soviet exhibitors, began with the raising of the flag of the USSR, which was hoisted by the Soviet diplomat. Present were Ismael Martins, Angolan minister of foreign trade, and Roque Tchiendo, vice-president of the Angolan League of Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples of the World.

A visit was later made to the Soviet pavillion, where the visitors had the opportunity to see the two conventional areas into which the stand is divided: one that is devoted to the establishment, development and expansion of Soviet-Angolan relations and to the economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola, and the other, which illustrates the creative work of the Soviet people, their economic achievements and export possibilities.

At the end of the visit, Ismael Martins, who headed the Angolan delegation, accompanied by Tiago da Silva, manager of the fair, signed the book of honor, in which he wrote that the presence of the Soviet Union at the first International Fair of Luanda since the RPA [People's Republic of Angola] had gained its independence, demonstrates and confirms, on the one hand, the great friendship that exists between the two peoples and nations, and, on the other, the potential for the reaffirmation of the bases for cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola.

With regard to the national days of the countries that have exhibits at FICOM-84, the 14th is reserved for Yugoslavia, the 15th and 16th for Cuba, China and Zambia, respectively, while Italy will celebrate its day on the 19th.

According to sources connected with the FICOM fair, 8,000 persons visited its installations on the day of its official opening, while, on the second day, Sunday, an estimated crowd of 6,000 visitors flocked to the site.

SOVIET COOPERATION IN FISHING INDUSTRY

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Nov 84 p 2

/Text/ At Luanda's First International Fair, the USSR Fishing Ministry has a special booth in the Soviet section. In fact, coopertion in the area of fishing is an important part of Angolan-Soviet relations.

Cooperation in the area of fishing between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola /RPA/ has been active since the mid-1970's. In 1976 and 1977, various Soviet organizations provided untied aid to the RPA in the form of a study of the technical and economic aspects of developing this branch of the Angolan economy. The study was used as a basis to formulate the plans to develop this sector.

The USSR is participating in projects outlined in the study, including preservation and the rational exploitation of the biological resources in Angolan waters, and is training Angolans for the country's fish industry. Every year, the Soviet Union grants 20 to 25 scholarships to Angolans to attend specialized advanced and middle schools under the USSR Fishing Ministry. With its assitance, a maritime commerce school was established in Luanda, and it has already trained hundreds of Ang lans. This work is also done on board Soviet fishing vessels operating in the RPA's waters.

About 150 Soviet technicians are employed in the fishing sector in the People's Republic of Angola, helping organize and conduct various research projects, train technicians, and operate and repair shops.

The USSR is also helping organize and develop Angolan fishing cooperatives (which currently comprise about 800 persons). the first one, "Kilamba Kiayi," was started in 1979. That same year the so-called Soviet-Angolan "fishing dispatch" began operating. Under this arrangement, the fish caught is distributed according to the participation and expenses of the parties. The Soviet vessels fish in Angolan water, and deliver part of their catch to the RPA in compensation for their fishing license. These supplies meet about 90 percent of the demand in the capital.

The intergovernmental agreement concluded last January outlines new prospects for bilateral cooperation, including a plan to build, with Soviet assistance, an Angolan complex made up of companies to process fish, a refrigeration unit, an ice factory, a school, a ship repair business, and other structures. There are also plans for the Soviet Union to supply Soviet-made fishing vessels.

There is no doubt that the USSR Fishing Ministry's booth at the First International Fair in Luanda will help further Angolan-Soviet cooperation in the fishing sector. On display there are fish processing equipment, a large number of different nets and other fishing equipment, models of fishing vessels and aquariums, in which visitors can see various species of live fish which may be important for the future of the fish industry in Angola.

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CSO: 3442/95

JOINT RED CROSS DELEGATION VISITS MOXICO

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 6 Nov 84 p 3

[Excerpts] A joint delegation of the Red Cross of Angola and the International Red Cross, of which the delegate of the CVA [Red Cross of Angola] to the CICV [International Committee of the Red Cross] and the assistant head of the International Red Cross in Angola, Joao Fialho da Costa and Pierre Conod, respectively, were members, made a 4-day visit to the province of Moxico to make an on-site study of the difficulties which the latter is undergoing.

During their stay in the province of Moxico, the members of the delegation engaged in a series of activities designed to minimize the hardships afflicting the population, which is the victim of the effects of war.

In fact, the aforementioned delegation visited the Central Hospital of Luena, where its members were able to study the difficulties of the institution, namely, the shortage of medicines and the conditions in which the patients, who are war victims, are interned.

The joint delegation included in its program a visit to the camp for displaced persons at Alto Zambeze (Cazombo), which is at present housing 2,714 refugees, where a practical exercise was conducted in the administering of medicine to treat the various ailments in evidence there. Many children, women and old people are suffering from malaria, diarrhea, leprosy and tuberculosis.

A visit was also made to the camp for displaced persons at Sangondo, where populations native to Lumbaia-N'guinbo, Cangumbe and Cangonga are concentrated. The delegation likewise visited the municipality of Leva (60 kilometers from the city of Luena), where they were able to study the areas that may be eligible for assistance from the CVA and the CVI [International Red Cross].

The delegation met twice with the provincial commissioner with whom it discussed the most viable ways in which to furnish direct aid in the various regions to the populations that have been scarred by the effects of war.

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CSO: 3442/85

PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY SENDS MESSAGE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Nov 84 p 2

/Text/ On Monday, the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party /PCP/ sent a message of congratulations to the President of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, on the occasion of the anniversary of National Independence, 11 November.

In the message, the PCP Committee reiterated the Portuguese communists' profound friendship for the Angolan people and their revolutionary vanguard, the MPLA-Labor Party, and support for their difficult and heroic struggle to defend the independence and sovereignty of Angola in the face of conspiracies and aggression on the part of imperialists and South African racists.

The message also reaffirms the PCP's solidarity with the Angolan people's struggle to oust from its territory the South African racist troops and its struggle against the criminal activities of UNITA, as well as with Angola's activities to defend and consolidate the historical conquests of the Angolan Revolution and build a new society.

"Today, as in the past, although in vastly different circumstances, our people are struggling for the same objectives of liberation. The PCP will continue to try to develop relations of friendship between the Portuguese and Angolan people and between the Democratic Portuguese nation and the RPA, and to denounce and fight against the policy of Portuguese submission to the aggressive military strategy of imperialism and use of our territory for counterrevolutionary, anti-Angolan activities," the message read.

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CSO: 3442/95

NAMIBE'S SALT INDUSTRY IN DIFFICULTY, BPV MEETING

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Nov 84 p 3

/Article by Hortencio Sebastiao/

/Text/ Namibe (from our correspondent). The five salt works belonging to the Empromar Kalahari and Kuroca enterprises, which had been virtually unproductive, have been in the process of renovation since last August, according to what the JORNAL DE ANGOLA learned from sources at the Provincial Office of the Fisheries Ministry.

According to the information we received, this process of restoration is being conducted under a contract with a Portuguese expert, who is training some Namibian workers in the technology so that the various centers will remain operational.

The salt-works at Cabo Negro, Pinda, Rocha, Bentiaba and Boa Vista comprise the group of units being rehabilitated, with a view to increasing salt production in the short run, as current production is low.

The deterioration of Namibe's salt industry is basically attributed to a failure to pay adequate attention to developing this important industry, which led to constant breakdowns of the pumps and deterioration of the mines, and to a shortage of skilled technicians, all of which was aggravated by the heavy rainfalls which flooded the province last year.

In terms of production, up to the third quarter of last year, 1726 tons of salt were produced, while for the same period this year only 678 tons were mined at the five government salt-works.

Regular salt supplies have been ensured primarily by the private Barreiras unit, which produces an average of 600 tons a month, equivalent to the actual installed capacity. It has experienced problems because of a shortage of plastic bags in which the product is distributed. This center is maintaining a stable production rate of 7,000 tons a year.

According to estimates, by the middle of next year, the government salt works will be producing 7,900 kilos of salt, and the year after that they will produce 14,500 tons, and by 1987, 21,000 tons.

It should also be noted that the social conditions of the workers have been improved, and that they have benefited from various pieces of production equipment and a regular supply of foodstuffs.

Assembly of the BPV's

The first Provincial Assembly to Review the People's Vigilante Brigades (3PV's) was recently held in this city, under the chairmanship of Simao Chinana, head of the sector in charge of the BPV's.

The need to have management committees in all the towns in the province and to systematically increase the number of workers joining the ranks of the People's Vigilante Brigades, and especially members of the Party, Party Youth, UNTA /National Union of Angolan Workers/ and OMA /Organization of Angolan Women/, were among the conclusions reached at the meeting which gathered together coordinators of the municipal committees of the MPLA-Labor Party and the DORGAN's /Departments of Organization of the Central Committee/, as well as heads of that organization of the people in districts surrounding the city of Hamibe.

During the assembly, a program of activities for the next year was approved, and the 12 members of the sector's provincial management committee were announced.

With regard to the "Socialist Competition," the results were 50 percent, and four brigade members from the Tchindukuto district distinguished themselves.

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DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR HARBORS UNDER DISCUSSION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 9 Nov 84 p 1

[Article by L. Agostinho: "Specialists Discuss Operation Strategy of the Ports"]

[Text] In a thesis document prepared by the seminar on the study and development of the ports of Angola, which opened yesterday at the Oncology Center [as published] in Luanda, on the initiative of the National Directorate of the Merchant Marine, the following statement appears: "A port may prove to be a formidable source of obstruction if it is not of a size sufficient for its needs, if its equipment is inadequate, and if the facilities for the circulation and warehousing of freight are designed on the basis of concepts that do not solve the problems involved."

During a 3-day period, specialists in the field of port activity will discuss the place of the ports of Angola in Angolan foreign trade operations, the general development plan for the port of Luanda, modern ideas on the construction of a port, based on the project dealing with containers and Roll-on-Roll-off and, in addition, they will present proposals and conclusions with regard to the future development of the Angolan maritime trade. This seminar, which already has before it a synopsis of the development project involving Angolan ports up to the year 2010, enjoys the collaboration of professors from certain international organizations, namely, Professors M. Schelzel, Pieter Bielvig, J. Lusch and W. Manceke of the ICB [expansion unknown].

The project synopsis that deals with the factors of development and operation that will affect Angolan ports up to the year 2010 is divided into three stages, to wit: that involving reconstruction, which will run from 1985 to 1995 and will embrace the questions of stability, economic influence and the need for transport. The second stage anticipates expansion and will be under development until the 1995/2000 period. The third and last stage, beginning with the year 2005, will ensure exploration for natural resources, the improvement of human resources and an increase in export activity.

Present at the opening work session, which was presided over by Cristovao Domingos Francisco (Colombo), national director of the merchant marine, were representatives of the most varied national and foreign ministries and enterprises. Prominent among the latter were UNECA, Nambisa, Seani-loyd, Hull Blyth, Consulmar, and AT AMI.

FIRST MILITARY COURSE BEGINS AT JIKA SCHOOL

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 6 Nov 84 p 1

/Article by Joaquim Ambriz/

/Text/ A group of boys pledged allegiance to the fatherland at a ceremony which was held in Luanda last Saturday to commemorate the beginning of the first political and military course at the Comandante Jika School and was presided over by Juliao Mateus Paulo (Dino Matross), a member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee's Politburo and state security minister.

The ceremony began with a speech by the director of the school, Capt Mario Lopes Teixeira, outlining the various stages of the history of that military institution which trains political and military officers of various units, regions and branches of the military, in accordance with the guidelines of the party and the Angolan Government.

Captain Teixeira said that the recently sworn cadets, who will be participating in the 3-year political and military program, will be attending courses in mathematics, chemistry, physics, world history, the international workers' movement and history of national liberation, philosophy, economics, the political organization of the RPA /People's Republic of Angola/ and military psychology and instruction. The curriculum will also include courses in general strategy, weapons of destruction and protection against such weapons, military regulations and universal order, for a total of 28 subjects.

The courses, which will be taught by Angolan and Soviet instructors, are part of Angola's general education system and are something new in the history of the achievements of the FAPLA /People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola/. Performance will be evaluated on the basis of the course instructions issued by the Ministry of Education.

As for the ceremony proper, Col Dino Matross added that "the purpose of this program of courses is to give Marxist-Leninist training to officers in the area of defense and security organizations. Completion of this program will mark an important step towards the general training of our political agents...."

The state security minister also told the school's directors to do everything necessary in the area of teaching and administration to ensure the best possible

education. He also exhorted the Angolan instructors to take advantage of the experience of the internationalist teachers, our friends since the beginning of the struggle for national liberation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

During the pledge of allegiance to the flag, when the students stood up and said that "if I violate this commitment, I shall be convicted under the laws of the RPA and all the hate of my nation shall be directed against me," the determination to defend the nation, the party and the revolution was reaffirmed, even though it may be necessary in so doing to spill blood and give one's life in exchange for the freedom and independence of Angola.

Col Dino Matross also said that "the complete training of our men, and especially our guerrillas, has always been a concern of the MPLA Movement, now known as the MPLA-Labor Party.

This is why, he explained, we created the CIR's /expansion unknown/, as a place where our fighters could receive political, military and cultural training. This greatly helped in adopting a battle strategy which led to our victory over the repressive colonial troops. "This is precisely what enabled our courageous fighters to defend our nation and our popular revolution in such a brilliant manner, and to repel the constant attacks of our enemy," he said.

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CSO: 3442/86

BRIEFS

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN BENGUELA--"Approximately 1,620 tons of sugar, the equivalent of 70 percent of the amount anticipated in the plan, is the production figure achieved at the First of May sugar factory in Benguela during the period between June and last September." Such was the statement made by Victor Ribeiro, provincial manager of OSUKA [expansion unknown], during the interview with ANGOP [Angolan News Agency]. According to Victor Ribeiro, the total production plan was for 20,800 tons of sugar, but it was not achieved due to the fact that one of the boilers was damaged. For this reason, only the low-yield boilers, which produce 50 percent less sugar than the damaged one, are operative. In addition to this, the enterprise has been faced by other difficulties due to the shortage of man power. The Fourth of February sugar factory produced only 69 percent of the 20.57 [as published] tons anticipated in the plan. The disrepair of the factory was the cause of the low production figure. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Nov 84 p 2] 8089

PRICES DISTURB ZAIRE FARMERS--Between January and October of this year, 350 tons of various products with a value of about 7 million kwanzas were purchased from the farmers of the province of Zaire by the Agricultural Products Marketing and Distribution Company. According to sources contacted by ANGOP [Angolan News Agency], this figure is higher than that recorded during the entire year of 1983, but could go even higher if the aforementioned firm had sufficient means of transport at its disposal (it owns only 2 operational 5-ton vehicles) and if it received a larger supply of industrial goods. To illustrate the situation, Garcia Figueiredo, manager of the firm, stressed the fact that during the past few months approximately 100 tons of oranges could not be picked up in the rural areas and, as a result, the fruit was spoiled. The company officer emphasized that the municipalities of Soyo, Noqui and Cuimba have achieved the best results and he reported that 80 percent of the industrial goods received this year went to the farmers, but that they are, nonetheless, unhappy with the prices, that have gone up year after year, when the prices of their own products have always remained the same. According to Garcia Figueiredo, although 2 years have passed, the firm does not yet have a fund earmarked for the purchase of products from the farmers, but uses, for the purpose, credits with the Banco Nacional de Angola, repayable within 90 days, which payment has often been impossible. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 8 Nov 84 p 3]

SHOA PROVINCES GEAR TO OVERCOME DROUGHT

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 5

[Text] AKAKI (ENA)--To withstand the problem of food shortage caused by drought, harnessing rivers and growing vegetables both in rural areas and towns are underway in large scale in all of the 11 provinces of Shoa region.

This was disclosed by the first secretaries of WPE committees of the 11 provinces in the region at a meeting held in Akaki town after reviewing the activities being done in the provinces to make practical the directives given by the Politbureau of the CC of WPE in order to withstand the drought problem.

The first secretaries said that besides harnessing rivers for irrigation purpose, digging of ponds, renewing of springs and preparation of fodder for cattle is being widely carried out in the region. They said that maintenance of tractors that were out of service for long is also underway in line with the directives given by the Natural Disaster Relief Committee of the region.

Speaking at the opening and closing of the meeting, Comrade Debela Dinsa, member of the CC of WPE and First Secretary of Shoa region and Chairman of the regional Natural Disaster Relief Committee, said that the efforts being made in the region to increase production has to be continued as the region has the largest pool of skilled manpower as well as a better means of communication.

He said that besides the efforts being made to tackle food shortage and save the life of the people, food production has to increase by way of harnessing rivers for irrigation purposes to satisfy local food consumption and produce enough for the world market to get foreign currency.

In the day-long meeting, chaired by Comrade Solomon Gebre, member of the CC of WPE and Head of the Ideological Affairs Department of Shoa region WPE Committee office, discussed the causes of drought, measures taken so far and remedial suggestions, the objective of the settlement programme and related issues.

The participants of the meeting later visited the 44,000 square metres of farm land being developed by irrigation by workers of Akaki Textile Factory and potato farm on half acre of land being carried out by residents of Akaki town.

Meanwhile, peasants in the nine districts constituting Jibat-Metcha province, Shoa region, are hard at work harnessing rivers in the area for agricultural development.

Thirty-three of the 72 rivers in the province suitable for irrigation have been already diverted for cultivation in seven peasant association holdings and two towns.

In the provincial capital of Ambo itself, the six kebeles constituting the towns have joined forces in diverting two nearby rivers for cultivating collectively operated vegetable plots.

Farther afield in Debre Tabor province of Gondar region, the regular and prison and finance police have pooled efforts to harness the Kega River for a similar purpose.

This has enabled the peasants in the area to cultivate four hectares of hitherto idle land. The initiative was taken in consideration of the effect of drought on the farming population.

The same police group was undertaken to tap the waters of the Wollo river for bringing another three hectares of land under cultivation.

The idea of harnessing rivers for irrigation purposes became popular as the drought situation became progressive worse and as vast tracts of land became uncultivable due to shortage of water. The practice is now familiar in most parts of the country.

CSO: 3400/359

HIGH-LEVEL TEAM INSPECTS RESETTLEMENT DRIVE

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIA HERALD in English 2 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] ASSOSSA (ENA)--The high-level team led by Comrade Legesse Asfaw, member of the Politbureau, secretary of the CC of WPE and Coordinator of the Resettlement Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Friday inspected the resettlement scheme in Assossa province of Wollega region which is being carried out in line with the Revolutionary Government's action programme for drought victims.

The high-level team was briefed at the resettlement sight by a surveying unit consisting of experts from the Mapping Agency, the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. Comrade Legesse urged the surveying unit to live up to the heavy responsibility entrusted to it and also gave directives so as to expedite the survey work and make the necessary preparation for cultivating farmland allotted to the resettlement "amba".

The high-level team was welcomed at the Assossa district resettlement "amba" by Comrade Dejene Retta, First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Assossa province, who briefed the team on the activities at the "amba."

The team inspected the resettlement area where compatriots brought from drought-prone areas were being cared for in relief shelters and others who have moved from shelters to houses they had built for themselves and started a new life. Those in the relief shelters and the rest who have moved into their own houses told Comrade Legesse that they were very happy to have come to the resettlement "amba" and are content with the food, medicine and other relief aid they are given by the government.

The high-level team also visited farmers who settled in Assossa province six years ago. Comrade Legesse praised the farmers from the encouraging results they had made in boosting productivity in the past few years and advised them to use irrigation to redouble their production.

The high-level team also inspected a group of 81 youth farmers, drawn from among farmers who resettled in Assossa six years ago, being trained to help organize newly arriving settlers.

Comrade Legesse addressed the youth urging them to follow their training diligently. He noted that the immense efforts made in the past by the Revolutionary Government had enabled compatriots from Wollo resettled in Assossa to become productive citizens instead of remaining dependents on relief aid. He said that as they have been selected to serve as teachers, they should realize the importance of the task awaiting them in politicizing and organizing the new group of settlers.

Members of the high-level team present during the working tour include Comrade Teka Tulu, alternate member of the Politbureau, Secretary of the CC of WPE, Chairman of the Central Audit Commission and representative of the Control and Inspection Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Comrade Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, member of the CC of WPE, Minister of Information and National Guidance and representative of the Propaganda and Agitation Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Comrade Tesfaye Maru, member of the CC of WPE, Minister of Urban Development and Housing and representative of the Construction Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Comrade Bega-shaw Atalay, member of the CC of WPE, First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Kaffa region and Chairman of the Drought Relief Committee for South-Western Zone, Comrade Negussie Fanta, member of the CC of WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Wollega region, other members of the CC of WPE, commissioners and representatives of mass organizations.

Meanwhile, in Nekempte, Comrade Legesse Asfaw said yesterday that party members, government and mass organizations should be actively involved in implementing the government's programme for coping with the drought challenge.

Comrade Legesse made the observation after touring rehabilitation and resettlement activities in Assossa province, Wollega region.

Addressing a meeting at the regional WPE Committee office in Nekempte, Comrade Legesse directed that the rehabilitation and resettlement programme in the region should be strengthened and that adequate provisions should be made in such areas as transport and health as well as in erecting temporary shelters and permanent villages.

Comrade Legesse noted that the all-round effort being made to save the lives of our compatriots and make them self-supporting is encouraging. Comrade Legesse reminded new settlers to make best use of the farm equipment with which they are provided by the government and said that under the leadership of the party and the government the day will not be far too long before we not only crush reactionaries but also control nature.

The settlers on their part pledged to be self-supporting shortly with the assistance given them by the Revolutionary Government.

Present during the visit were Comrade Teka Tulu, Comrade Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Comrade Tesfaye Maru, and other officials representing Kaffa, Wollega and Illubabor regions.

SEED PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION CENTER INAUGURATED IN NEKEMPTE

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 27 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] NEKEMPTE (ENA)--The seed processing and distribution centre built at a cost of 3.4 million birr by the Ethiopian Seeds Corporation was inaugurated here over the weekend.

The centre which is the first of its kind, winnows and prepares 40 quintals an hour at present and is providing service to state farms and peasants in Wollega and neighbouring regions.

The centre with a capacity of 30,000 quintals has two stores and one sophisticated winnowing and preparing mill.

A cornerstone for the construction of the maintenance workshop for the western zone at a cost of one million birr was also laid during the inaugural ceremony.

Speaking after inaugurating the centre and laying the cornerstone for the workshop, Comrade Nigussie Fanta, member of the CC of WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Wollega region, noted that the workshop besides providing job opportunities while at the same time contribute towards producing a skilled manpower in the area.

The seed processing and distribution centre, Comrade Nigussie noted will contribute towards combating the current drought problem by distributing selected seeds to producers' co-operatives. He urged the Ethiopian Seeds Corporation to do its best and provide better services to conquer famine.

Comrade Hambissa Wakoya, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of State Farms Development, said on his part that the maintenance workshop offers dependable services to garages serving settlement centres and peasants' associations and will also provide the needed material and technical base for the agricultural sector of the economy.

Present at the inaugural ceremony were members of the CC of WPE, members of the Wollega regional WPE Committee, the regional First Deputy Administrator, the Deputy Administrator, managers under the Ministry of State Farms Development and representatives of government agencies and mass organizations in Wollega region.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN TRAINING ACCORD--An agreement was signed here yesterday between Revolutionary Ethiopia and the Peoples' Republic of Bulgaria to give on the job training to 500 Ethiopian youth members. The agreement was signed at the auditorium of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs by Comrade Yemane Araya, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and by Comrade Stefan Dossez, alternate member of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party and First Deputy Chairman of the country's Labour and Social Affairs Committee. Those youth members who will take on the job training in Bulgaria are those who have passed the Ethiopian School Living Certificate Examination and aged between 18 and 26. The agreement is for a period of five years as of 1985. The training will enable the youth to have more experience in different professions in line with the man-power need of the country. The number of trainees will grow upto 2,000 in the future in accordance with the agreement to be concluded by the two countries. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 pp 1, 3]

AMBO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH--AMBO (ENA)--Dr. Anilimov Boris, Director of the Ambo Agricultural Research Centre, said here Wednesday that there is plan to distribute various selected seeds among the peasants of Jibat-Metcha province after reproducing them on the farms of two peasant producers' cooperatives in the area. The director said that satisfactory results have been achieved in preventing crop diseases, pests and weeds. Dr. Boris told reporters that the Research Centre has tried its best to acquaint the peasants with modern agricultural implements in order to help vastly produce different crops. The seeds tested were of wheat, maize and potato. Wheat and maize, although in great demand, are in short supply, according to Dr. Boris. He said the resultant scarcity has brought hardship on the people which should be tackled through improved agricultural practices. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 4]

TERRITORIAL MILITIA GRADUATE--DEKEMEhari (ENA)--A group of territorial militia drawn from six provinces of Eritrea region completed a two-month course in military and ideological training and graduated here Thursday. Arms to the graduating batch and special prizes of outstanding members were handed over by Comrade Yisehaq Tsegaye, Deputy Administrator of Eritrea region. Comrade Yisehaq noted on the occasion that in line with the nation's principles of building a dependable defence force, considerable number of peasants have been trained in military science and are deployed in clearing their areas from

secessionist elements. Comrade Yisehaq urged the graduates to expose the scurrilous propaganda of the bandits and to wipe out remnants of the gangs from the area where they cause mass deprivation. Comrade Col. Admassu Mekonnen, head of the training centre, earlier spoke of the nature of the training and of the high vigilance of the graduates. Representatives of the graduating batch expressed readiness on behalf of their colleagues to live up to their task. Present at the graduation ceremony were the Administrator of the Hamassien province and representatives of government and mass organizations. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 1 Dec 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/359

LAX AIRPORT CLEARANCE MEASURES JEOPARDIZE NATIONAL SECURITY

Accra GHANAIAAN TIMES in English 22 Oct 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Checking At Airport"]

[Text] THOSE in charge of Accra airport security are justified to ignore all the protests against the checking systems which they have adopted to ensure compliance with Customs and Immigration regulations. They have every reason to adopt even stiffer measures at the airport. We, indeed, urge them to reject some of the supposed protocol practices at the airport which have clearly proved to be against the national interest. Some of these so-called protocol practices make it difficult for the airport security personnel to carry out their tasks effectively. Moreover, these practices give privileges to some travellers which are never allowed in other countries.

Ten days ago, an international flight from Europe arrived at the airport at eight o'clock in the evening. As the plane came to a stop, as many as about forty members of the public surged forward to the very foot of the gangway to welcome their friends and relatives who arrived on the flight. Most of these people Ghanaians and foreigners, simply took the hand luggage of their friends and relatives among the passengers and walked with them into the airport building. The airport security officials tried to check this illegal infiltration of non-passengers, but they could not do much about it partly because they had many arrivals to see through, the normal formalities, and because some of the infiltrators, mostly 'big men', had one arrogant excuse or another to give for being there.

Three of the infiltrators carrying the luggage of two arriving whitemen would allow neither the luggage nor the two arrivals to be checked at all, shouting "they are UN officials." The airport personnel obviously did not like it, but it seemed that they were helpless.

There are normally three categories of passengers arriving at the airport. One--Heads of State and others of similar status arrive at the airport and go straight to the diplomatic lounge and are received by the host. Two--Ministers and the like arrive and are usually received at the VIP lounge. In both cases, selected protocol officials may meet them at the foot of the gangway and take care of their required check-in and check-out formalities. Three--all other passengers arrive and go straight into the airport building to go through the formalities on their own.

Travellers

Everywhere else, ordinary travellers are met by friends and relatives only after they have gone through all formalities and emerge with their things from the baggage room. Right from the aeroplane, to the tarmac and through the airport building, no one is allowed to mix with passengers. What we see at Accra airport of people, including foreign residents, going right up to the aeroplane to take passengers' hand luggage and walking with them through the formalities is unacceptable, for many obvious reasons.

Such practices lend themselves to various abuses, and can be dangerous for national security and economic reasons. That is how illegal currency exportation is made; that is how gold and diamonds are illegally taken out of the country and that is how arrivals bring foreign currencies with them, hand them over to their friends and walk through the formalities without declaring anything.

No traveller has the right to be given privileges at the airport which offer him the chance to leave the country or enter it without going through the required processes. We urge the airport security authorities to put their foot down and apply the rule on everyone, including those who arrogantly use their positions even to enter aeroplanes to hand over parcels to their smuggling accomplices.

CSO: 3400/351

TUC'S STAND AGAINST PNDC'S ECONOMIC POLICY CRITICIZED

Accra GHANAIAAN TIMES in English 2, 3 Nov 84

[Editorial: "Unhelpful Resolutions"]

[2 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] AT the end of September, the Tema District Council of Labour of the TUC came out with a resolution on the economic situation in the country. On 24th October, the National Executive Board of the TUC came out with another resolution on the same subject. The theme of both resolutions was the same--a violent denunciation of the Government's economic policy, on the assorted grounds that it is unworkable, a "sell-out to international imperialist monetary agents"; the cause of intolerable hardship to the working people; the instrument of increasing class conflicts in the society, etc; followed by a number of cautions and demands. Both resolutions are full of half-truths and untruths which, however convincing they may seem to the gullible and uninformed, reveal a lack of both logic and honesty on the part of some of the labour leaders.

The list of things which the TUC leaders say that the working people of this country want and do not want are so unrealistic that we do not think that the writers of the resolutions seriously believe what they have written. We credit them with more common-sense. But in doing so, we must conclude that, for reasons of their own, they hope to convince their more naive rank and file that it is, as they say, possible to have your cake AND eat it.

For the benefit of our readers, we list below the major demands set out in these resolutions. What the TUC WANTS are: subsidies on goods and services; more and better social services; encouragement of the State-owned sector; more imports for essential services; more jobs; better housing; more funds allocated to education; distribution of goods through workers' co-operatives.

What the TUC DOESN'T WANT are: price increases; lay-offs; restraints on wage increases; any more loans from the IMF and World Bank; any further adjustment of the cedi to its actual value; export promotion at the expense of local industry; the Prices and Incomes Board and all its works.

Representatives

And to make sure that they get what they want and get rid of what they don't want, they indicate that they DO want their own nominated representatives on the PNDC and all other government organs, and they do NOT want Dr Kwesi Botchway and his Economic Development Programme.

To any thinking person, this catalogue of likes and dislikes sounds rather like that of a child who says he wants new clothes, toffee, money for the cinema, chicken and cake for dinner, but he does NOT want to do his maths homework, sweep his room, work on the farm, or run errands for his mother. It would, of course, be pleasant to be able to go on thinking in this way as adults, getting the good things of life and avoiding the less attractive ones. But we learn, as we grow, that everything, sooner or later, has to be paid for, whether in terms of money, effort or self-discipline.

It is not possible in the space available to analyze all the points in these TUC resolutions; but let us make a start with just ONE. They disagree with the Government's efforts to rehabilitate the export sector of the economy on various ground. These include the argument that the money going into mining, timber, cocoa, et cetera, could better go into industries which supply the local market, and also the argument that the foreign exchange will be used to service debts. They actually say that the PNDC has "submitted" to the "dictates" of the IMF and the World Bank to adopt an "export strategy of development IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO SERVICE DEBTS"!

Any responsible person knows that debts have to be paid--or do they expect some Father Christmas to dole out money from somewhere? Or do they think it possible to revive the economy WITHOUT rehabilitating industries, whether export orientated or not? Since we do not have the funds for this investment, we must borrow--not for the pleasure of paying it back, but in order to use the money as a tool for WORK, in order to EARN enough to pay all our debts, rehabilitate all the other sectors of the economy which have not yet had their share, and provide all those good things which they are so anxious to have. But it has to be in that order; we cannot have the goodies before we have earned them.

It is evident that the Government would like nothing better than to spend more on education, to guarantee high prices for farmers, and then subsidize the food so that urban workers can buy it cheaply, to create more jobs, improved social services, and all these other nice things. The TUC may think it possible to do this without earning the means to pay for it, and without creating an economy which can SUSTAIN these payments. They may try to persuade students and farmers that this is possible. But logic dictates that this is wishful thinking.

[3 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] ONE thing should be emphasized: If a method adopted for a long time has failed to achieve the desired results, then there is something wrong with that method--either it is inherently wrong or it is irrelevant to the

situation and therefore unrealistic. This is the message which we have tried from the very beginning of the Revolution to press home to leaders of the country's labour movement.

The inclination to say something from time to time just to show that they are supporting the interest of workers is the labour leader's traditional practice, but it has never produced real results because the practice has demonstrated two basic weaknesses. In the first place, the practice bears the marks of an unfair attempt by those involved to maintain their credibility in the eyes of workers. This is clear from the fact that it is usually when the going is tough and the sharing of responsibility stares everyone in the face that the practice is indulged in to shift blame. In the second place, the practice fails to show a faithful recognition of the real problems, and is often devoid of proof of what the labour leaders have done in fulfilment of their part of the responsibilities in the interest of workers.

To avoid irrelevance, it has been pointed out that with the changing situation brought about by the revolutionary process, the old way of looking at the responsibility of the TUC by its leaders is no more tenable. For, whilst in the oppressive old days the workers as organized labour had a lot of reasons to see the Government apart as a group of self-seekers, the revolutionary situation is one in which workers have got the opportunities of effective participation in the things that directly affect their interests, therefore the sharing of responsibility demands from the labour leaders rather self-examination and self-criticism instead of finding fault with others.

This is why after the national economic recovery programme was published, the challenge was thrown to whoever found fault with it to state the reasons and provide details of what alternatives should be taken--because just saying it was bad would not help the nation. So far as we are aware, no one brought any alternatives with a working plan to prove its superior efficacy. So with the hope that the programme will succeed, and with evident concern for the interests of the people, the Government has proceeded with carrying out the programme, having to battle with difficulties along the way--foreseen difficulties which the Government did everything to get the nation prepared to face.

With this background, the resolutions coming from TUC quarters highlighting problems and making demands are not news to anyone. What will be news should be an account from the TUC itself of the steps it has taken so far and the achievements it has made in fulfilment of its part of the bargain. The TUC was reminded, for example, that the workers' dues which it receives every month can go a long way in providing immediate relief for workers in various ways. We even went so far as to ask for an account to workers of the monthly dues so that workers would be in a position to propose how some of the money can be used on the things they want.

Workers of many organizations have been trying to find the means of catering for their interests, such as running their canteens effectively. Money from their dues could, for instance, be used in assisting some of these organizations to make vegetable farms to feed their canteens, and so forth. These kinds of service to workers are some of the responsibilities which the TUC bears in the recovery programme.

The distribution of commodities to workplaces is still in practice, and many workers find it difficult to contribute money as deposit for their allocations. The TUC could use funds from its dues as loan deposits for the workers to collect their allocation as and when necessary. Has this been done?

And so the TUC resolutions should be critically examined by workers.

CSO: 3400/351

EEC COMMISSIONER VISIT AUGURS GOOD PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] At the end of the 24-hour visit paid to our country, the commissioner of development from the European Economic Community, Edgar Pisani, claimed that there are good prospects for cooperation between Guinea-Bissau and the EEC, in connection with the forthcoming Lome Convention, which will be signed this month in the Togolese capital.

During his brief stay in Guinea-Bissau, he was received by President Nino Vieira, held talks with ministers from the economic sector and visited the town of Bafata.

Yesterday, in Bissau, the European Economic Community's commissioner for development, Mr Edgar Pisani, remarked that the economic guidelines currently being followed by our country's government are very close to what EEC has in mind.

At the conclusion of the 24-hour visit to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Mr Pisani also remarked that, for this reason, the dialogue which is being opened and which will open on the occasion of the coming Lome Convention, on cooperation between our country and the EEC, will be relatively easy.

This EEC official was received in an audience by the president of the Council of State, Joao Bernardo Vieira, held talks with members of the Guinean Government associated with the economic area and visited the Bafata region, where he had an opportunity to observe some projects financed by this European agency, namely, the cotton processing factory and the construction on the Bambadinca-Bafata bridge.

With regard to the talks held in Bissau, Pisani said that a discussion was held on possible technical assistance from the EEC to the Bissau government, "which is currently seeking a solution to its monetary problem."

The EEC commissioner for development commented: "Guinea-Bissau is completely isolated from other countries and, in this respect, has commercial problems resulting from a currency that is not convertible. Hence, we have observed the

need for sending a mission of Guinean experts to the EEC as promptly as possible, not so that we may suggest a solution to the government, but rather to enable us to put forth diagnoses for this situation. We think that its solution does not concern Guinea-Bissau alone, but the neighboring countries as well; all of which are located in the same region and hence are concerned about solving the problem."

He also noted that the franc plays a major role in this area. In addition, there are countries covered by the dollar, "which does not benefit regional development, but on the contrary makes it more complicated."

He also discussed with the Guinean authorities problems associated with the development of commerce and agriculture, two areas which, in his view, are closely interconnected.

Upon his departure, Pisani remarked: "We also place a great deal of stress in the fishing agreement on exports of Guinea's fishing resources to the EEC countries. Meanwhile, we are willing to assist beyond what has been stipulated in that agreement; because we are also attempting to develop fishing as an occupation on the domestic level."

2909

CSO: 3442/112

PORTUGAL'S GASPAR DA SILVA HAILS COOPERATION

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 5

[Text] The cooperation between Guinea-Bissau and Portugal will gain new breadth and dynamism, according to the claim of observers in the area. This assertion became eloquent following the visit paid to Guinea-Bissau by the Portuguese state secretary of cooperation, Mr Gaspar da Silva, who, upon his arrival in Lisbon on Monday, urged Portuguese businessmen to invest in the country.

According to the Portuguese state secretary of cooperation, the investment code in Guinea-Bissau "provides for the start of any undertaking. In fact, there are conditions in the country for making good sized and well planned projects profitable, enabling Portuguese businessmen to enter the international trading systems."

Moreover, Gaspar da Silva stressed that, with Guinea-Bissau's agricultural potential, the Portuguese investment could dynamize the reunion of Portugal and Guinea-Bissau.

The Portuguese cooperation is aimed at making 1985 the year of socio-cultural cooperation with Guinea-Bissau. Within the context of this cooperation, a Portuguese educational project is due to start in mid-December in the country, wherein the participation of the Portuguese Ministry of Education is essential for its execution. The program for instruction in the Portuguese language will begin with courses in Portuguese at the cultural center in Bissau, where Portuguese films will also be shown.

2909

CSO: 3442/113

FISHERIES SECRETARY DISCUSSES PROJECTS AFTER EUROPEAN TRIP

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 5

[Text] On Wednesday morning, Comrade Luis Sanca, state secretary of fisheries, returned to the country after a working visit which he paid to European countries, namely, Portugal, France and Belgium.

Comrade Sanca told NO PINTCHA: "The results accrued were satisfactory, since in Portugal, the first stop on the trip, we obtained approval for the project for construction of the building for the State Secretariat of Fisheries headquarters in Bissau, at a cost of 70,000 contos."

He had previously remarked that, in the context of cooperation and mastery of scientific research, "We requested support for setting up a marine biology laboratory, and the director of the Portuguese National Research Institute guaranteed that backing, providing the list of items required to create the laboratory. They are willing to furnish grants for internships for the personnel who will be working in the aforementioned laboratory.

"Guinea-Bissau also proposed that the future institute of Guinea-Bissau be made a partner of the Portuguese Institute of Fishing, and a protocol is soon to be concluded that will afford a direct exchange of information between the scientists of both countries.

"Our delegation in that European country was received by the minister of maritime affairs, who has the Secretariat of Fishing under his jurisdiction, and by the state secretary of cooperation, on behalf of the minister of foreign affairs, who was away.

"In France, the second leg of the visit, where the purpose thereof was to examine the method for cooperation in the fishing area, particularly the Semapesca project, it was decided to reduce the capacity of the cold storage chamber, which had been 1,000 tons, to 50, this being a temporary reduction because the previous capacity exceeded the fuel supplies.

"As for the shrimp fishing project, the volume of the catch will rise, with a maximum of 500 traps, so as to attain a production of 240 tons per year.

"It is also planned to install a refrigerator vessel on the Cacheu River, to back the shrimp fishing.

"Meanwhile, it was also decided that the management of the small-scale occupational fishing would be carried out from Bissau, and the shrimp fishing project will have autonomy in its management, with regard to the technical and financial aspects; with the management of the operation in our capital as well, something that had been done in France at another time."

According to Comrade Sanca, a bank account to be used only for operations relating to the shrimp project will be opened in Ziguinchor.

With regard to the fishing activities, that member of the government claimed that the French Government has agreed to gradually reduce the activity for the fishing project in view of the cut in the cold storage capacity, and to help the State Secretariat of Fisheries to maintain the facilities of the Semapesca enterprise.

Moreover, Comrade Sanca added: "The French Government will later examine Guinea-Bissau's proposal for the installation of a refrigerator snip, with the backing of canoes."

As for the method of financing, he said: We requested a rescaling of the debts contracted with Semapesca over a minimal term of 4 years without interest, and a rate for the latter reduced to 4 percent, extending the term of its payment to 20 years."

It was also decided to grant a subsidy from the Cooperation Assistance Fund (FAC) in the amount of 1.2 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs; and note was taken of the need to mobilize efforts between our government and the French Government to start up Semapesca again.

The subject of our interview said: "We have the participation of private French entities which will contribute a million French francs to the fund for handling the shrimp fishing project."

As for technical assistance, the economic cooperation services, CCCE (Central Fund for Economic Cooperation), will explore the possibility of covering the cost of the chief of the shrimp project and his assistant.

Furthermore, the French partners are seeking more viable means of reducing the Guinean expenditures for French technicians rendering service at Semapesca.

However, the Guinean Government is studying the problem for the purpose of cutting fuel costs in the fishing sector.

During his stay in Brussels (Belgium), the final stop on his tour, Comrade Luis Sanca was the bearer of a personal message from President Nino Vieira to the Belgian prime minister, regarding economic problems in connection with the bilateral cooperation.

The aforementioned message was delivered to the Belgian state secretary for cooperation, and Comrade Sanca explained to the member of that country's government that "Guinea-Bissau attaches great importance to the bilateral cooperation with Belgium, through the non-governmental organizations which are currently financing certain projects at a cost of approximately 20 million Belgian francs."

The subject of our interview remarked: "The Belgian state secretary for cooperation was very understanding, claiming that all the projects which are currently under way would continue."

The fishing delegation from Guinea-Bissau, represented by its state secretary of fisheries, was received in Brussels by the general director of political affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Relations and by its secretary general, on behalf of the minister of foreign affairs of the European Economic Community (EEC); and the topic of their conversation involved the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

2909

CSO: 3442/113

BRIEFS

BRIDGE REPAIRED--The bridge connecting the Cure and Caboxanque sections, which had been in bad condition for 2 years, was repaired on 24 November by the population of the Bedanda sector. The repair of this bridge made it possible for the area's residents to emerge from the enormous isolation to which they had been subjected. Attending this work were several heads of rank and file committees and residents of the two sections. The participants decided to work in the future in order to solve certain problems of the same type. Meanwhile, Comrade Paulo Coelho, a technician specializing in cooperatives who is assisting in the creation of a fruit growers' association, has been in the Caboxanque section since 23 November, to discuss with the sectorial entities and the directors of the Experimental Agricultural Production Department (DEPA) the possibilities of transporting the fruit from the countryside to the urban area. This visit followed the recent visit paid to the Tombali region by the minister of planning and international cooperation, Comrade Bartolomeu Simoes Pereira, who analyzed with the peasants matters associated with fruit transportation. Comrade Carlos Silva (Pepito), director of DEPA, was a member of the delegation. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 4 Dec 84 p 2] 2909

NEW PORT PLANS--It was announced at the latest meeting of the regional planning office of the Tombali region, held on 23 November, that the construction work on the new port of Inhamitanga, in the Catio sector, will begin next year. The port project, estimated at \$5 million, includes the construction of a port of 100 meters long, provided with infrastructure capable of taking in 10,000 tons of cargo, as well as the construction of large warehouses. The meeting was chaired by the vice chairman of the State Committee, Comrade Carlos Silva, the representative from the Netherlands, a financing committee member, and gave an explanation of the types of work that would be carried out. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 2] 2909

GDR SOLIDARITY DONATION--The PAIGC Central Committee received (as a donation) a supply of blankets for adults and children given by the Solidarity Committee of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), during a ceremony held on 27 November in the party's reception room. The delivery was made by the GDR ambassador accredited to the country, Comrade Manfred Seferth, in the presence of Comrades Francisco Silva and Benicio Costa who are, respectively, a member of the PAIGC Central Committee and party secretary for international relations, attached to the aforementioned party institution's administration and finance office.

At this function , Comrade Francisco Silva expressed his gratification and thanks for the donation given by that German Solidarity Committee, stressing that this gesture "symbolizes another step in the intensification of the relations which have always existed, since the difficult times of our national liberation struggle." The ambassador from the German Democratic Republic, in turn, speaking on behalf of his party and the aforementioned Solidarity Committee, commented that the delivery of that donation represents, once again, "a bond of friendship aimed at reinforcing further still the cooperation between our two states." [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 3] 2909

PORTUGUESE MILITARY DELEGATION--A Portuguese military delegation, headed by the brigadier aviation pilot, Artur Misquita, has been in Bissau since Monday to establish contacts with the Guinean Armed Forces in connection with the cooperation between Portugal and Guinea-Bissau. In this same context, there are plans to train Guinean military cadres in the fields of administration, accounting and physical education. Also in the area of the contacts, military cadres will be trained in the fields of health, military justice and hydrography, and a military band will be formed. In statements made to the Portuguese News Agency (ANOP), the Portuguese general officer said that there is an attempt "to reactivate the contacts" between the two Armed Forces, and that this visit to the Guinean capital was considered quite timely as a means of "heightening the relations between the two sides." Also serving on the Portuguese military mission were Infantry Col Jose Bento Guimaraes Figueiral, aviator pilot Col Guilherme Pinto da Costa Santos, Infantry Maj Jose Francisco Reis dos Santos, Lt Capt Eurico Ferreira de Carvalho and personnel services Capt Victor Resa Gama. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 5] 2909

CSO: 3442/113

IVORY COAST

AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS UNDER WAY WITH GERMAN AID

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT in German
26 Nov 84 p 2

[Article by W. An.: "Higher Agricultural Prices in World Markets Help Ivory Coast; Several Agricultural and Industrial Projects Established with German Aid"]

[Text] Primarily as a result of inadequate world market prices for her agricultural products and because of persistent periods of drought, the Ivory Coast had slid into an economic crisis in 1980/81, a crisis that could only be overcome through debt rescheduling and assistance from international organizations. However, there are now once again signs of economic recovery, due above all to good coffee and cocoa harvests at higher world-market prices. Better results could also be obtained for cotton, rubber and palmoil products. The production of sugar, on the other hand, had to be curtailed. Diversification of the agricultural base continues; in addition, the export of tropical timber has increased. Petroleum exploitation has not yet yielded the expected results. The Federal Republic of Germany, like other nations, is providing significant development aid.

Because of recent adequate and regular rainfalls, the Ivory Coast, the world's number one cocoa producer, expects a record crop for 1984/85 of about 450,000-500,000 tons of cocoa. In 1983/84, cocoa production came to 365,000 tons. Since world-market prices rose for both cocoa and coffee, the government was able to hike the producer price of one kilogram of cocoabeans from 350 francs CFA (100 francs CFA equals about DM 0.65) to 375 francs CFA, and of one kilo of coffeebeans from 150 francs CFA to 190 francs CFA.

In 1983, the Ivory Coast expanded her exports to 821.7 billion francs CFA, compared to 755.6 billion francs CFA a year earlier. Imports were cut from 745.6 billion francs CFA in 1982 to 735.7 billion francs CFA. The share of cocoa exports in 1983 (1982) was 206.1 (202.9) billion francs CFA, although the export volume fell from 386,900, in 1982, to 345,000 tons. Coffee exports as well brought higher export earnings. They totaled in 1983 (1982) 159.6 (142.3) billion francs CFA, with total sales of 223,600 (273,100) tons. Thanks to a better cotton harvest, the export of cotton and cotton products climbed to 59,500 (46,500) tons in 1983 (1982) and yielded earnings of 47.2 (32.8) billion francs CFA. In the case of vegetable

oils and fats, the value of exports increased, in 1983 (1982), to 19.2 (14.8) billion francs CFA, although the export volume shrank by 90,300 (93,600) tons. As for rubber, both the export earnings and export volume went up. Earnings in 1983 (1982) amounted to 11.2 (7.3) billion francs CFA, and the volume was 29,700 (28,800) tons. The export of tropical timber developed well. In 1983 (1982), 2.1 (2.0) million tons, at a value of 111.3 (97.8) billion francs CFA were exported. The export of 24,000 tons of canned tunafish produced 20.0 billion francs CFA worth of foreign exchange in 1983.

The Ivory Coast has been a petroleum producing country since 1980 when the Societe Ivoirienne d'Operations Petrolieres (Siop) started production in the small offshore field of Belier. Subsequently, production also started in the Espoir field. In 1983, production totaled only 1.1 million tons although a production of 1.5 million tons had been expected. In 1982, it totaled 650,000 tons. In 1983, an additional 1.06 million tons of petroleum had to be imported, compared to 1.43 million tons a year earlier. Yet in 1983 (1982), the Ivory Coast also exported 0.18 (0.24) million tons of crude oil, 0.18 (0.14) million tons of diesel oil, 0.18 (0.41) million tons of heavy oil, and 0.41 (0.39) million tons of other mineral oil products.

The crude oil refinery operated by the Societe Ivoirienne de Raffinage (SIR) at Vridi near Abidjan was expanded in two stages by the end of 1983. The first expansion phase was completed at yearend 1982 by the French company Heurtey Industries, Paris, which essentially supplied and installed a distilling plant, a catalytic reforming plant and a desulfurization plant. The American Fluor Corporation, Los Angeles, set up a hydrocracker during the second phase as well as a dock for tankers with a load-bearing capacity of up to 250,000 tons. Total costs of the expansion investment, which doubled the annual throughput capacity from 2 to 4 billion tons of petroleum, ran to about 150 billion francs CFA.

The prolonged period of drought at the Ivory Coast led to difficulties in the supply of electrical power which depends primarily on hydroelectric power stations at river dams. Thus, considerable cuts had to be made in power production, and both industry and private households were suffering from power shortages. To overcome these shortages, the Societe Energie Electrique de la Cote d'Ivoire (EECI), in Abidjan, which is responsible for the country's power supply, installed at Vridi four gas turbines (25 megawatt each). The supplier was the French firm Alsthom Atlantique, Paris. The so far most important hydroelectric power project of the Ivory Coast, the construction of a dam with an electric power station (four groups of turbo generators with 82 megawatts each) near Soubre at the river Sassandra, has been postponed indefinitely. Important natural gas deposits have been discovered offshore, which could be used to supply energy in the future.

In agriculture, special emphasis is given to promoting the planting of palm oil and rubber trees. In December 1983, the European Development Fund contributed

10.3 million accounting units (1 accounting unit equals about DM 2.24) for the expansion and replanting of oilpalm plantations and groves. The project, which requires a total investment of 17.1 million accounting units and an area of 12,517 hectares, will be operated by the State Palmoil Industry Society and is scheduled for completion in 1986.

The German Finance Company for Investments in Developing Countries (DEG), Cologne, is participating in promoting the growth of rubber tree plants. It granted, in 1983, a DM 1.5 million investment-type loan to the Societe Africaine de Plantations d'Heveas S.A., (SAPH), Abidjan, and thereby increased its total financial contribution to DM 12.5 million. The SAPH established another rubber plantation at Rapides Grah, in the south-western region of the Ivory Coast. Other financial participants were the state-owned French Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique (CCCE), Paris; the British Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC), London; the European Investment Bank (EIB), Luxembourg; and the local Banque Nationale de Developpement Agricole (BNDA), Abidjan.

The DEG also increased its financial investment in the Koda-Fleurs Côte d'Ivoire S.A., Abidjan, by DM 0.5 million to DM 1.2 million last year in order to facilitate an expansion investment. Koda-Fleurs grows flowers, especially anthurias, for export to the Federal Republic of Germany and other European markets. The German technical partner is the medium-sized import firm Koda-Fleurs Damman K.G., Geldern. The expansion investment is to make it possible to double the area to be cultivated from 5 to 10 hectares. Prior to that, the DEG had been involved in two textile companies, namely, Impressions sur Tissus de Cote d'Ivoire S.A. (Icodi), Abidjan, and La Cottonniere S.A. (Cotivo), Agboville, as well as in the wood-processing firm Menuiseries Ivoiriennes SarL (M.I.), Abidjan, and the fertilizer factory Societe Ivoirienne d'Engrais S.A. (Siveng), Abidjan. In addition, it supports the development bank Banque Ivoirienne de Developpement Industriel (BIDI), Abidjan.

In the summer of 1981, the firm Ziegel- und Kunststoffwerke [tile and plastics factory] Heinrich Oltmanns, Jeddelloh/Oldenburg, decided to undertake a direct investment jointly with the Banque Ivoirienne de Developpement Industriel (BIDI) which led to the establishment of the joint venture Societe Ivoirienne H. Oltmanns (Siho). For the first construction phase of a factory at Banoua to produce coconut fibers to cover drainage pipes, expenditures in the amount of DM 2.5 million had been estimated. So far, the German firm has imported almost all raw materials for the manufacture of coconut-fiber covered full-filter pipes from Sri Lanka.

In October 1984, the FRG granted the Ivory Coast development aid of DM 29.6 million. This includes DM 15 million of financial aid for 1984 and DM 14.6 million in technical assistance for 1984/85. Negotiations also took place on new loans in the amount of DM 85.5 million which had been promised earlier. The funds are now to be used primarily for agricultural development.

Specifically, DM 25 million will go to small rice growers, DM 18 million for water supply and DM 16 million for road construction, among other things. Most recently, FRG development assistance was primarily used for the water supply of small towns and rural electrification.

In June 1984, the African Development Bank, Abidjan, granted the Ivory Coast a credit of 6 million accounting units (one accounting unit equals about \$1.6) to finance part of a cattle-breeding project in the central and south-western province whose total costs are estimated at about 10 million accounting units. Project leader is the Societe pour le Developpement des Productions Animales (Soderpa), Abidjan.

During the Sixth Industrial Forum, which will be held in Dakar (Senegal) in early December 1984, the Ivory Coast is expected to submit 10 industrial projects for which she would like to have suitable foreign partners. She is above all interested in establishing small and medium-sized enterprises in the agro-industry sector. The largest project is the construction of a chemical plant that is expected to require an investment of about \$ 20 million. The purpose of the factory is the manufacture of intermediate chemical products that are to be used in the production of palmoil-based soaps and in the domestic fertilizer industry.

7821

CSO: 3420/20

BRIEFS

EEC LOAN FOR ROAD--The minister of finance, the Honorable K.T.J. Rakhetla, today signed an agreement for a loan of 11.5 million maluti from the European Community, EEC. The loan will be utilized to finance a construction of a bituminous 27 kilometer road from Mohale's Hoek to Mikaling River. The road includes a (?six large spanned bridge) over the Maphutsaneng River. The loan is part of the Second Lome Convention vote for Lesotho, and is on soft terms, 40 years duration. It is anticipated that work on the road will commence in January or February 1985, and be completed within 2 years of the start day. At the same signing ceremony, the minister of finance signed a loan contract for 4 million maluti with the EEC for funding a navigational aid, metereological equipment, and communications equipment for the new international airport. The contract for this supply of equipment was awarded yesterday to the international [word indistinct] the United Kingdom. [Text] [Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 14 Dec 84 MB]

EEC AIRPORT CONTRACT--The honorable minister of transport and communications, Dr K.T. Maphathe, yesterday afternoon signed a contract of navigational aids and communications equipment for the new international airport with the delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, EEC. The contract, valued at 3.4 million maluti, is to cover the supply, installation, testing and commissioning of navigational aids, telecommunication equipment, and metereological equipment. The funding of the contract is in the form of a special loan provided for by the first Lome Convention agreed by the African, Caribbean and Pacific State member states of the EEC. [Excerpts] [Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Dec 84 MB]

JAPANESE AID--The governments of the Kingdom of Lesotho and Japan have agreed on grant in aid to the value of \$310,000 for the supply of rice. Half of the grant is to purchase rice, and the other half will be used to stabilise and develop the economy of Lesotho. The exchange of notes for this grant were signed in Lusaka, Zambia, by His Excellency Mr Masatoshi Ota, ambassador of Japan to Lesotho, and in Maseru by the honorable V. M. Makhele, minister of foreign affairs, and today in Maseru [words indistinct] took place. [Excerpt] [Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 14 Dec 84 MB]

UNITED PARTY DENIES LINKS WITH NDPL

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 30 Oct 84 p 12

[Text] The proposed Unity Party of Dr. Edward B. Kesselly has reacted to a report in West Africa magazine (October 22, 1984) in which it was reported that "Dr. Kesselly is leader of the Unity Party, which is believed to have strong links with Mr. Samuel Doe's National Democratic Party."

In a release signed by Dr. Kesselly, the Unity Party noted that "someone appears intent on linking Unity Party with the National Democratic Party of Liberia."

The Unity Party said that it is "preposterous to entertain any notion of a link between Unity Party and the National Democratic Party when we are not even aware of the aims of the other party."

The reaction noted that "whatever reason or reasons the person or persons might have for peddling this piece of propaganda, we view it as a sign of despair and defeat on the part of those who have concocted such a base strategy."

The Unity Party went on to "challenge anyone, anywhere, to present to the public any evidence, in any form, which links the Unity Party, even slightly, with the National Democratic Party of Liberia."

Denying the report further, the release said that "we wish to let it be known that when we are through with all the requirements for registration conferring on us a legal status, we shall hold anyone making any such false allegation about us answerable in law."

It may be recalled that recently, the Unity Party is led a release in which it denied alliance with any political party or group.

Noting the importance attached to the political future of the country, the Unity Party stressed that "it is too crucial to be traded off in any alliance that does not share the same vision."

CSO: 3400/346

LAP CHALLENGES NDPL ROSTER; PROBE REQUESTED

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 7 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] The Liberia Action Party (LAP) has challenged the partisans' list released recently by the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL), and has requested the Special Elections Commission to deny the NDPL final registration.

The LAP reaction follows numerous questions and comments which the public has raised since SECOM published in this newspaper, October 23-25, the NDPL partisans' registry, reflecting, according to the Election Guidelines, 500 partisans each from six counties of the Republic.

So far, the NDPL secretariat has declined to comment on the issues raised concerning their partisans' registry. And when contacted yesterday for their reaction to this latest challenge from LAP, NDPL leaders told our reporter that they would "reserve comment" until later this morning. According to the Guidelines, the list of partisans is subject to challenge within 20 days from the date filed.

In their first official reaction to the NDPL list published by SECOM, LAP said that NDPL's registration should be denied on the following grounds:

1. That the NDPL's partisans' list recently submitted to the Special Elections Commission failed to provide sufficient information as to give the people of Liberia, the voters and all concerned parties, including the Special Elections Commission, the opportunity to adequately ascertain the validity and legality of the said list.
2. That the NDPL partisans' registry for the various political subdivisions as submitted to the Special Elections Commission, carries only Voters Roll Number--which has created several duplications--when in fact it should have also carried the Constituency Number and the Center Number for each partisan or voter.

The Liberia Action Party, therefore, requested SECOM to reject the registry in its present form and have it declared null and void. It further said that publication of the registry should cease with immediate effect, and the NDPL politely advised to re-do its registry in a manner reflecting the Voters Roll

Number, the Constituency Number and the Center Number for each registered NDPL partisan, in order to legally satisfy the provisions of Section 1 and 5 of the Guidelines issued by the Special Elections Commission.

3. That the Special Elections Commission should instruct the National Democratic Party of Liberia to voluntarily withdraw their partisan registry with the right to refile after a list containing a much more comprehensive information has been prepared, and their failure to do so should leave the Commission with no alternative but to unilaterally declare invalid the NDPL list and deny registration to NDPL.

4. That in the event the National Democratic Party declines to withdraw their partisans list in the manner submitted to the Special Elections Commission, said NDPL should be denied full registration as a political party until this four-count challenge from the Liberia Action Party has been investigated and disposed of at a formal administrative hearing to be presided over by SECOM.

CSO: 3400/346

LIBERIA

LUP: SECOM'S GUIDELINES DISCRIMINATE AGAINST POOR

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 14 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] The Liberian Unification Party (LUP) says it plans to again submit pre-registration documents to the Special Elections Commission (SECOM) "possibly this week."

The Acting Chairman of LUP, Dr. Hne Leslie Greene, made the statement yesterday in an interview with the Daily Observer. He was responding to questions about his party's plans following SECOM's refusal last Friday to accept LUP's pre-registration documents.

SECOM's action stemmed from LUP's declared refusal to comply with section 4 (D) of the Guidelines for the registration of political parties requiring \$50,000 cash and \$100,000 sureties.

The confrontation between SECOM and LUP also seemed to have brewed as a result of a statement last Friday by the LUP acting chairman in which he said SECOM's Guidelines discriminates against the "poor of this country and deny the equal protection under the law..."

LUP's statement last Friday had hardly ended when SECOM Co-Chairman Albert White abruptly brought the meeting to a halt and refused to accept the party's pre-registration documents.

Mr. White described LUP's statement as a challenge to SECOM's authority.

The proposed Liberian Unification Party had gone to SECOM's Ashmun Street office last Friday with all its documents including checks and sureties; but the rationale for the precipitation of the row between it and SECOM is still not yet clear.

Commenting on SECOM's move last Friday, Dr. Greene said it was "regrettable." But he added: "what has happened, has happened."

The Acting LUP Chairman added that his party will still register with SECOM "to keep the public aware that we are still in the race."

He disclosed that a delegation from his party visited SECOM Headquarters on Monday "to hear from them," because it was SECOM which cut off the pre-registration program, and not LUP.

Dr. Greene then declared: "We assured them that we have fired a political gun and we shall definitely register with them."

If LUP is allowed to submit its pre-registration documents to SECOM this week it will be the fourth proposed political party to do so.

The other three are the National Democratic Party of Liberia of Head of State Doe; the Unity Party of Dr. Edward Kesselly and the Liberia Action Party, headed by Counsellor Tuan Wreh.

The Unity Party and the Liberia Action Party have gone a step further and submitted their partisans' registry to SECOM.

Meanwhile, LUP's youth wing Chairman, Mr. A. C. Plato Warner, and Secretary General, Mr. Buster T. Hne Hennings, have revealed that LUP has about 10,000 youth members across the country.

According to the officials, despite LUP's large youth membership, it has also devised methods to "satisfy the demands of youths." These include academic and vocational benefits as well as counselling services.

The officials also say that LUP's youth wing has designed action development programs to develop youth in various fields and help to curb the high rate of social problems.

CSO: 3400/346

LIBERIA

DETAILS PROVIDED LPRC ALLEGED 'POLITICAL' DISMISSALS

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 21 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Four employees of the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC) have been dismissed for what management has referred to as "administrative reasons". However, one of the victims has connected the dismissal to "political motives" as all of them are members of another political party.

Those dismissed were S. Edgar Sie Badio, superintendent of the Legal Department; he is also a member of the Organizing Committee of the Liberia Action Party; Mr. John G. Sahn, superintendent Industrial Relations. He is also a member of the Organizing Committee of LAP.

Dismissed also is Mr. Richard Gaye, superintendent of Public Relations. Mr. Gaye is Treasurer of the United People's Party (UPP). Mr. Joseph Farquellie, a junior accountant, who has also been dismissed, is a member of the Liberian People's Party (LPP).

In a letter addressed to one of the dismissed employees, dated November 17, 1984, and signed by the Managing Director of LPRC, Aletha Johnson, it read: "Effective immediately, your services with the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company have been terminated for administrative reasons".

"Please accept my thanks for whatever service you may have rendered the corporation during the period of your employment," it concluded.

According to Mr. Farkollie, who joined the company on April 26, 1982, he had neither received a letter of warning from management nor suspension prior to his "surprising dismissal".

He told the Daily Observer that news circulating from higher authorities at LPRC had it that the dismissal of the four employees was promoted by the alleged connection with political parties.

He alleged that for his part the authorities had said that on many occasions his photograph had been spotted in newspapers and on television alongside Dr. Amos Sawyer who is Provisional Chairman of the Liberian People's Party.

Furthermore, Mr. Farkollie alleged: "It has been circulated among higher authorities at LPRC that I am one of those who had travelled to Ethiopia in 1981 to attend the Adult Literacy Programme and was recently described by Defense Minister Gray D. Allison as a saboteur".

When contacted by telephone yesterday, the Acting Managing Director of LPRC, Mr. Philip T. Davis, was non-committal, adding that only the Managing Director, who is presently out of the country, was in the position to comment on the dismissals of the employees.

Meanwhile, Mr. Badio and Mr. Sahn have been made full-fledged members of the Organizing Committee of LAP; and Mr. Badio has been given the portfolio of Chief Coordinator of all LAP regional political activities in Maryland County, while Mr. Sahn, an industrial relations expert, has been assigned as the Chief Coordinator of all LAP regional political affairs in Nimba County.

In another development, three government employees and a self-employed personnel were recently detained by the Superintendent of Gibi Territory, Major Amos Bohn, for what was allegedly referred to as their refusal to become members of the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL).

Those detained and threatened with losing their jobs included Mr. Kona Jones, a mechanic at the Ministry of Public Works branch in Kakata; Mr. Christopher Togba, a clerk typist in the Superintendent's office; Janga Sheriff, also a mechanic at the Ministry of Public Works branch and Mr. Henry Davis, a marketer.

The victims of the reported action of Superintendent Bohn alleged that they were all detained at the "Carter High" prison on the Bong Mines Road without any investigation conducted into "why we did not want to align ourselves with any of the political parties."

However, they said, "We were released after a day in detention only to be told by Superintendent Bohn that 'we were being held for administrative reasons.'"

All efforts by our reporter to contact or reach the Superintendent or his assistant in Kakata proved futile.

CSO: 3400/349

NDPL CHAIRMAN KPOTO DENIES HARASSMENT ACCUSATIONS

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpts] The National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) has challenged anyone or group to produce evidence within a competent court of law that people are being harassed for refusing to join the party.

Speaking during a ceremony at the Special Elections Commission (SECOM) Friday, NDPL chairman, Kekura Kpoto denied persistent rumours that people were being dismissed or threatened with dismissal for not affiliating with the party.

"Now that we are a party," he added "we challenge anyone to take us to court, then we will prove that they are liars."

A local newspaper had reported last week that four employees of the Liberian Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC) were dismissed for affiliating with parties other than NDPL.

The Unity Party and Liberia Action Party had also complained to SECOM that officials and partisans of NDPL were harassing and intimidating their members who were canvassing for membership in some parts of the country.

SECOM Chairman Emmett Harmon Friday told newsmen that the commission was "looking into" these allegations. He insisted that newsmen should not use the word "investigation."

Barely three hours later, the Liberia News Agency (LINA) quoted the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, J. Bernard Blamo, as ordering the immediate release from detention of representatives of UP and LAP reportedly arrested in Lofa and Grand Gedeh counties while soliciting membership for their respective parties.

During the ceremony Friday, NDPL Chairman Kpoto also dismissed as "untrue" reports that several superintendents were serving as local leaders of the NDPL.

He challenged anyone to come forward with evidence to prove this.

Mr. Kpoto's statement was in response to questions from newsmen who wanted to know whether superintendents J. Gondah Walkie and Venetius Vokpor of Nimba and Bong Counties, respectively, are not local leaders of the NDPL.

At this point, the barrage of questions from journalists were halted by SECOM Chairman Harmon who maintained that the occasion was not the proper forum for such questioning.

He insisted that the press should arrange a conference with officials of NDPL at their party's headquarters.

SECOM's co-chairman, Albert White, later accused journalists of always harassing members of the commission. He did not elaborate.

CSO: 3400/344

DOE ORDERS SUPREME COURT TO REVOKE SCOTT'S SUSPENSION

Military Prerogative

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Head of State has ordered the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to take back his decision of the court against Mr. Jenkins Scott, Minister of Justice, and to "immediately restore" to the Justice Minister the rights and privileges to practice law in the Republic of Liberia.

Dr. Doe took this stand yesterday after the Supreme Court, in a unanimous ruling handed down on Friday, held the Minister of Justice in contempt and suspended him from practising law for two years.

The Head of State observed that as a matter of courtesy and respect to his office, no action of such magnitude should have been taken against any of his ministers by the head of another branch of government without his knowledge.

"Ours is still basically a military government," Head of State Doe pointed out, and with the absence of a constitution, the three branches of government --Executive, Judiciary and Legislative--are not necessarily separate and distinct. The process of going through channels should therefore be observed, he stated.

The Head of State noted that the action of the Supreme Court to suspend his Minister of Justice from legal practice was seen as "an attempt to embarrass government" since it is obvious that the Minister of Justice is expected to represent the state at any time to defend government as the occasion may arise.

Dr. Doe, who is also President of the Interim National Assembly, pointed out that like the Chief Justice, the Justice Minister was appointed by him, and as such, critical action against the Minister should have been first referred to him (the Head of State).

When contacted by telephone late yesterday for his reaction, Chief Justice Emmanuel Gbalazeh told the Daily Observer that he had no comment on the statement by the Head of State. Asked whether he would be meeting with his colleagues today, (Monday) he replied yes, as the Supreme Court is still in session. The October term of the court was not adjourned, he added.

The Chief Justice noted that the decision suspending the Justice Minister from practice for two years was unanimous and met the approval of all five Justices of the Court.

The Supreme Court noted in its ruling Friday that Minister Scott had launched a very critical attack on the Liberian Judiciary when he (Scott) "accused judges and lawyers of receiving bribes" and attributing "rampant jury tamperings" to the courts and lawyers.

The attacks were contained in an article published by the New Liberian following an interview after the Justice Ministry's unsuccessful attempts to prosecute the Commissioner of Insurance at the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Ben T. Collins.

Following the publication, the Supreme Court cited Minister Scott and the Editor-in-Chief of the New Liberian, for contempt.

'Judicial Release'

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 27 Nov 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Supreme Court of Liberia, in response to a directive from Head of State CIC Doe, has issued a special judicial release lifting the suspension of Justice Minister Jenkins Scott from practicing law in the country.

A release signed by Chief Justice Emmanuel Gbalazeh, said: "In obedience to the directives of the Head of State and President of the Interim National Assembly, CIC Dr. Samuel K. Doe, as contained in a Special Executive Mansion release Sunday afternoon, to reinstate Counsellor Jenkins K.Z.B. Scott to the practice of law, and realizing the supreme executive power of the military government in Liberia to which the judiciary is subject The suspension of Counsellor Scott is lifted with immediate effect".

Meanwhile, in a special message to the Minister of Information Carlton A. Karpeh, the Chief Justice has indicated that the fine imposed against Miss Aletha Roberts, Editor-In-Chief of the NEW LIBERIAN newspaper has been waived.

Minister Karpeh has expressed thanks to the Chief Justice and pointed out that his action was a positive step in the interest of freedom of the press.

Ordering the restitution of legal rights to the justice minister Sunday, Head of State Doe said the chief justice's action was an attempt to embarrass government, especially when it was obvious that the minister is expected to represent the state at any time, and to defend government when ever the occasion arises.

Dr. Doe had noted that like the chief justice, the minister of justice is also appointed by him, and such critical action against the minister should have been first referred to him.

Minister Scott was last Friday suspended from his post as dean of the National Bar Association by the Supreme Court and barred from practicing law in Liberia, directly or indirectly, for two years.

The Supreme Court's action stemmed from strong criticism of the Judiciary made by the justice minister in an interview with this paper last September.

For allegedly conniving with Minister Scott to "defame" the judiciary, Editor Roberts was fined \$500 by the court.

'Judicial Crisis'

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 27 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpts] A three-day national convention of lawyers is scheduled to begin this Thursday, during which participants are expected to speak on current crisis facing the Judiciary.

This was disclosed by the Secretary General of the National Bar Association, Counsellor David Jallah, who said the convention would focus attention on several issues, including the action taken yesterday by the Supreme Court Chief Justice Emmanuel N. Gbalazeh, to lift the two-year prohibition order on Justice Minister Jenkins Scott from practising law in the country.

The action taken by the Chief Justice to rescind the Supreme Court's decision against Minister Scott was in response to the order of the Head of State and President of the Interim National Assembly, Dr. Samuel K. Doe.

In a press release on Sunday, the Head of State ordered the Chief Justice to overturn the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court against Mr. Jenkins Scott, and "immediately" restore to the Minister all rights and privileges accorded him to practice law in the country.

In obedience to the order of the Head of State, Chief Justice Gbalazeh yesterday lifted the suspension of Counsellor Jenkins Scott from practising law directly and indirectly in the country.

However, it is not clear whether the lone signature of the Chief Justice on the press statement rescinding the unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court disqualifies the opinion of the entire Justices of the Supreme Court who had unanimously met and signed their judgment against the Minister of Justice.

The opinion was expected to have become a legal document should it not have required to be cancelled.

Meanwhile, Justice Gbalazeh briefly told our reporter yesterday that he had nothing else to say other than the fact that "this is a military government, and we have to obey the directives given".

The whole legal problems grew out of what the Supreme Court had described as very critical statements the Justice Minister had allegedly made and which were published in the government-owned newspaper, the New Liberian.

WOLOKOLLIE 6-MONTH DETAINMENT WITHOUT TRIAL DETAILED

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 28 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] Mr. Dusty WoloKolliE received the shock of his life yesterday when he was required by the Criminal Court to remain in jail for another three months until his case comes up for trial in February, 1985.

WoloKolliE is a member of the Liberia People's Party (LPP), and has been in detention since three months ago on charges of violating PRC Decree No. 88A. The decree empowers the security to arrest and detain anyone suspected of carrying lies, rumours and disinformation.

WoloKolliE had been originally charged along with one Anthony Kesselly, also of LPP. He had successfully won a legal battle for separate trial because of the mysterious whereabouts of Anthony Kesselly.

The trial of the case had been duly assigned for November 26; but few days to the date of the trial, prosecution lawyers urged the court to suspend the case until February 1985 session.

The prosecution said their motion was due to the illness of their material witness, George B. Browne, who had been issued a medical certificate by the Island Clinic of Monrovia to stay off duty for 90 days. The prosecution produced the medical certificate signed by Dr. Augustine Amechi to substantiate the physical unhealthiness of witness Browne. The indictment brought against the accused shows that the Minister of Justice is another prosecution witness in the case.

On Friday, the defense lawyers filed their resistance and called on the court to try the case as scheduled.

In a pre-trial conference with Judge Benedict Kennedy, the judge presiding, the defense asked the court to hear the motion on that Friday. But the prosecution requested the court to hear the motion on Monday, November 26.

However, the judge decided to hear the motion on Monday, because of what he described as a "capital offense" with which the defendant had been charged and to which he is not allowed to file bail.

He said the court would take "courteous step" in the case because "the defendant's liberty as at stake" and he is not to tender bail.

During the proceedings on Monday, it was observed that the defense counsel had withdrawn their original resistance and filed an amendment resistance with the attached copy of an affidavit under the signature of Dr. Augustine Amechi. The affidavit denied the credibility of the medical certificate which had been issued to George Browne by Dr. Amechi.

In an attempt to clarify the issuance of the certificate, the court summoned Dr. Amechi, who appeared and testified that he signed the certificate and the affidavit.

Dr. Amechi explained that it was "unfortunate" for him to have signed the affidavit. He said he could not reach the original certificate because it was on Sunday when he was approached at his house by the defense counsel.

During a heated legal tussle by both the prosecution and defense lawyers, the court tried to know whether any party litigant attempted to ascertain the truthfulness of the sickness of witness George Browne of the National Security Agency (NSA).

No one told the court that he saw George Browne anywhere.

The court, therefore, upheld the request of the prosecution to suspend the case until the February 1985 session of the court.

The defense took exception to the judge's ruling and gave notice that they would "take advantage of the statute controlling".

CSO: 3400/344

UNITY PARTY ROSTER CHALLENGED FOR 'DUPLICATION'

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 3 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] A number of "concerned" citizens have challenged the partisans roster released recently by the Unity Party (UP).

In their letters to the Special Elections Commission (SECOM), these "concerned" citizens said they observed "duplication" and "fictitious" constituencies in the party's list of partisans published in the DAILY OBSERVER newspaper.

The publication of UP's membership roster reflecting 500 partisans from each of six political subdivisions of the country, was in fulfilment of election guidelines for party registration.

According to the guidelines, the list of partisans is subject to challenge within 20 days from the date filed. The DAILY OBSERVER commenced publication of the UP partisan list some three weeks ago.

In his petition to SECOM, one of the "concerned" citizens Mr. Daniel Sluwar of Broad Street, Monrovia, asked the commission to clarify whether or not it is possible for five or more persons in the same county to have the same voter registration and constituency number under the same center and same day.

In his letter, a copy of which was made available to this paper, Sluwar questioned whether it was right for an individual from any county to create his or her own constituency number that does not exist in a county.

As a concerned citizen, Sluwar said he had observed that the UP partisans' list for Lofa County published by SECOM in the DAILY OBSERVER dated November 19, and noticed that many of the names were duplicated.

In another letter, Nyanbeor Ai-Boley of Paynesville outside Monrovia, alleged that UP had intentionally outrun the approved number of constituencies in Bomi County as observed in the UP partisans' list for that area published in the November 20 edition of the DAILY OBSERVER.

He pointed out that according to SECOM, Bomi County is limited to only three constituencies.

He urged SECOM to investigate the issue pointing out that "such fraudulent act on the part of the UP cannot and will not be condoned by the masses of Liberia."

He also suggested that SECOM should reject or cancel the 470 names listed on constituencies not existing in Bomi County.

(The two letters have been re-produced in their entirety on page 7.)

So far, the UP organizing committee has declined to comment on the issue, insisting that to do so would be improper since SECOM has not raised the matter.

The chairman of SECOM, Emmett Harmon, was not available for comment when this paper contacted his office Friday.

A secretary there refused our reporter audience with Mr. Harmon after he briefed her on the nature of his visit.

She insisted that replies to these "concerned" citizens would be sent to them directly and not through the press.

"Have these individuals empowered you to investigate the matter on their behalf?" she asked our reporter.

CSO: 3400/349

LIBERIA

ARRESTED LAP MEMBER REPORTEDLY RELEASED

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 7 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Mr. Wilmot McCritty, a member of the Liberia Action Party (LAP), who was ordered arrested and detained on Tuesday in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, by Superintendent John Y. Kreku, has been released.

He was released on Wednesday night following a swift intervention of LAP and the Special Elections Commission (SECOM).

Mr. McCritty's detention came on Tuesday following reports made to Superintendent Kreku that he had allegedly engaged in canvassing for LAP without a letter of permission from SECOM authorizing him to do so, coupled with his alleged intimidation of natives of No. 4 District, Grand Bassa County, while carrying on the exercise.

But, following his release, Mr. McCritty described the allegations as false, malicious and unfounded, adding that it was only intended to publicly discredit him.

He stated that he had merely provided transportation to the accredited canvassers to their designated places of registration, and that he was not personally involved in registering LAP partisans, knowing that he had no accreditation from SECOM to engage in such an exercise.

His release came after a two-man LAP delegation, comprising LAP's Vice Chairman Harry A. Greaves, Sr. and LAP Coordinator, Dr. Nah-Doe Bropleh, delivered letters from the Special Elections Commission to the Superintendent's office amid jubilation.

SECOM acted on the urgent plea made by the Organizing Committee of LAP requesting the Commission's intervention to have Mr. McCritty released. LAP called on SECOM to act "in the interest of eliminating official oppression being perpetrated on LAP registered partisans by some over-zealous superintendents, who are attempting, wittingly or unwittingly, to give the Doe Government a bad name during this period of canvassing and transition to democratic civilian rule."

SECOM wrote two letters to Superintendent Kreku to permit McCritty to travel and canvass for the registration of LAP partisans in the county and appealed to the superintendent to have Mr. McCritty released.

Mr. McCritty, a former member of the now dissolved Constitutional Advisory Assembly, is now spearheading the county-wide drive for the mass registration of LAP members in Grand Bassa County "without force, coercion or intimidation."

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the National Organising Committee of LAP, Counselor Tuan Wreh, has commended SECOM for its swift action in facilitating the "immediate release of Mr. McCritty and in bringing the political tension in Bassa, caused by the arrest, under control."

CSO: 3400/349

NHSB, FRENCH BANK SIGN CREDIT AGREEMENT

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 22 Nov 84 pp 3, 6

[Text] An export credit agreement was recently signed between the National Housing and Savings Bank (NHSB) and Banque Internationale Pour L'Afrique Occidentale (BIAO) headquartered in Paris, France.

Signing for NHSB was its vice president for credit and marketing, Mr. Alvin E. Eastman, while Messrs. Didier Laval-Charvet and Bernard Jauffret of BIAO's International Loans Department signed for their bank.

According to a NHSB release the two banks mutually agreed to strengthen their relationship in the framework of the accord, and to facilitate the extension of commercial credit links between customers of the NHSB and French suppliers of industrial goods and services.

Under the terms of this Agreement, BIAO will finance under buyers' credits with the guarantee of the NHSB contracts which would be entered into and signed between private Liberian buyers customers of NHSB, and French suppliers. The NHSB will guarantee the reimbursement of these credits after having studied, confirmed and agreed on a case by case basis of each specific project (contract) that the borrower is validly constituted, the release said.

The maximum amount of this credit agreement is \$3 million or its equivalent in French franc.

Contracts eligible under this Agreement should have a French part between \$125,000 to \$600,000 which shall be made available to the borrower at the signature of the contract.

The duration of the credit ranges from two to seven years or more depending on the nature of the supplies and the amount involved.

The credit is repayable semi-annually six months after the delivery date of the equipment or the commissioning date of a plant.

CSO: 3400/346

PASTORAL LETTER CONDEMNS 'EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE, POWER'

Decree 88 A

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 4 Dec 84 p 8

[Excerpt] The Catholic Bishops of Liberia have requested that Decree 88A be withdrawn, so that the right to freedom of speech and of the press may be enjoyed by all citizens of the country.

In a 12-page Pastoral Letter, read in Catholic churches throughout the country Sunday, the Archbishop of Monrovia, Most Rev. Michael K. Francis and the Bishop of Cape Palmas, Rt. Rev. Boniface Nyemah Dalieh, said they felt that the intention of the decree, "to outlaw lying, and prevent the spread of malicious rumours", was "praiseworthy".

But, said the bishops, "the means proposed to achieve this end are open to question."

"The public, unhindered exposure of the truth is the best way of counteracting lies and false accusations in a free society", the bishops declared.

The decree, said to have been the last to be composed by the defunct People's Redemption Council before its dissolution last July, makes it a "criminal felony of the first degree" if a person "accuses any executive authority, judicial authority, member of the Interim National Assembly or any other individual either by word or mouth, writing or by public broadcast of conduct or any act which constitutes the commission of a crime, provided that at a time such accusation the purpose of the author is (a) to thereby injure the official or other individual in his reputation to undermine his official or personal status; (b) to create disharmony, spread rumours, lies and disinformation; (c) to undermine the security of the State, cause civil strife or confusions, labour unrest, hinder, impede or interfere with the electoral process..."

The Decree, dated July 21, 1984, said the security forces "are hereby empowered to arrest and detain any person who violates any of the provisions contained in Section I herein."

Since its promulgation, many institutions, including this newspaper, have expressed serious reservations about the decree. Two persons, Messrs. Dusty

Wolokollie and Anthony Kesselly, have been accused and their trial pending, of alleged violation of the decree.

Faithful Public Duty

The bishops called on all Catholics to take seriously their public duties, especially to the State.

"Catholics skilled in public affairs and adequately enlightened in faith and Christian doctrine", said the bishops, "should not refuse to administer public affairs since, by performing this office in a worthy manner, they can simultaneously advance the common good and prepare the way for the Gospel."

The bishops rejected the notion that politics was a "dirty game" indulged in by the ruthless and greedy. Instead, they said, the church speaks of the "difficult but most honorable art of politics".

Quoting the second Vatican Council, the major policy-making forum of the Catholic church, the bishops said, "...Let those (Catholics) suited for politics...work to exercise this art without thought of personal convenience, and without benefit or bribery.

"Prudently and honourably", the bishops went on, "let them fight against injustice and oppression, the arbitrary rule of one man or party, and lack of tolerance. Let them devote themselves to the welfare of all sincerely, fairly, indeed with charity and political courage."

Arbitrary Arrests

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 5 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] The Catholic bishops of Liberia have condemned arbitrary arrests, detentions without trial and excessive use of force and power; saying, these practices could lead to instability and frustration among the general public.

"A stable government," said the bishops, "will only exist if the rights of the people are understood and protected."

Archbishop Michael K. Francis of Monrovia and Bishop Boniface N. Dalich of Cape Palmas gave these poignant admonitions in a Pastoral Letter prepared for the church's Advent Season and read in Catholic Churches throughout the country last Sunday.

Touching on "politics in Liberia" in their Pastoral Letter, the bishops recalled that recent Liberian history had shown that the perpetrators of social injustice and human rights denials became "themselves the first victims" of these unfortunate practices.

"Man's social and political nature will not acquiesce to outrage" they warned, and further declared, "we now insist that there be no more bloody revolutions in Liberia."

The bishops said the fundamental principle of state authority is to promote the common good of the people in order to maintain a stable government.

They noted that if that principle is violated, state authority has betrayed the very purpose of its existence.

The promotion of the common good must involve the whole state machinery in order to be effective. In implementing this basic rule, the bishops said, every effort must be made to overcome tribalism and selfishness which, they insisted, "have no place in the new government of our country."

They recommended that the government should highly regard and earnestly pursue the just distribution of goods and services among all citizens; and added, "Human rights must be respected at every level."

CSO: 3400/349

MORRIS CONFRONTS STUDENTS ASSEMBLED TO DISCUSS UL ISSUES

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 5 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Students of the University of Liberia have been given the choice to decide whether they are prepared to resume classes or prefer to have the University closed.

The choice was given by the UL President, Dr. Joseph G. Morris, during a meeting yesterday by a large group of students which gathered in the auditorium on the University's main campus in Monrovia.

The meeting was arranged by a group calling itself "Students Organised to Save the University (SOSU)". It was intended to serve as a forum for discussion by the students of a position paper on the reopening of the university.

Characterized by chanting of slogans and the raising of fists in the air, the meeting was at a certain point interrupted by a UL authority who, upon hearing the noise, came in to inquire about the reason for the meeting. He also wanted to know whether it was being held with the consent of the UL authorities. He was accordingly booed by the students who claimed that they have all rights to gather and discuss issues affecting them.

Upon arrival in the auditorium, apparently to contain the situation, Dr. Morris, the new University President, told the students that their meeting was a matter of serious concern, because they were creating a situation which was not in keeping with orderly pattern of behaviour of university students.

He quickly pointed out that the new administration will not hesitate to act if the students came forward to clearly state that they are not prepared to resume classes.

"We will not force ourselves to be here if you make us to understand that you are not ready to resume classes", he stated.

He indicated that the new administration has been doing everything possible to get the university reopen with the hope that the students will utilize the opportunity to continue their studies.

During the meeting, several issues which were outlined for concerted action were being discussed under examination of opinions prior to the interruption.

Among other things outlined for discussion were the demand for "maximum security for students and the setting up of a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the August 22 Army invasion" of the University Campus.

Other issues on the agenda to be discussed were the "rejection of the new administration" and the demand for the "reinstatement of administrators and faculty members dismissed on August 22 and after."

Giving analysis of the various points on the agenda, a spokesman for the group said that the students must be assured by the national government and the UL administration that they (the students) will neither be molested nor faced by any caction similar to that of August 22 in which "most of our colleagues and others were brutalized."

He immediately called the attention of his fellow students to the "current situation of one of our colleagues, Ezekiel Pajibo, Acting President of the Liberia National Student Union (LINSU), who is being detained."

He accused the current UL President of "knowing something about the detention of Pajibo."

The UL President, who almost went into tears before the students upon hearing this, told the students that he has no cause to place any of them at security risk. "How can I work towards the detention of a student when I don't know not even him alone, but nearly all of the students.

"You will have to make up your mind whether you are serious to get back to school" he concluded and left the auditorium.

The students, most of whom were quite touched by his expression, immediately began to leave the auditorium in low spirit. Some began to murmur, "We have to give this man a chance. We can't continue to act like this."

CSO: 3400/349

BRIEFS

GERMAN AID PROJECTS--The visiting German Parliamentary delegation has assured Liberia their country's continued assistance. Mr. Jochen Feileke, member of the German Parliamentary Committee for Economic Cooperation in charge of West Africa who gave the assurance on behalf of the delegation, however stressed that German Aid to Liberia would continue to take the form of rural projects. The delegation visited the Nimba County Rural Development Project in Saclepea, the Ganta Powerhouse under construction, and the Ganta Leprosy Center which were all undertaken with German assistance. Mr. Feileke said of the 140 countries which benefit from German aid, Liberia has "the highest per capita aid." [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 26 Nov 84 p 7]

ITALIAN STEEL MILL--Two separate manufacturing enterprises with a total investment capital of nearly \$21 million are expected to be set up here early next year, the National Investment Commission (NIC) disclosed here yesterday. The two enterprises, a \$15.9 million steel rolling mill, and a \$5 million fruit canning factory, in which Liberians will be privileged to buy shares, are to be undertaken by an Italian conglomerate called FINSIDAR. According to Mr. Kparghai, a Mercedes Benz assembly plant is also to be set up here. [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 15 Nov 84 pp 1, 6]

IVORIAN OIL DRILLING TRAINING--Liberia and the Ivory Coast have agreed to revitalize all bilateral agreements that were tabled after the April 12, 1980 coup in Liberia. According to Liberia's Ambassador to the Ivory Coast Mr. Harold C. Tarr, the construction of a hydro electric dam on our common border, was among several ventures that had been previously earmarked for implementation but were shelved in the wake of the military takeover in Liberia. Ambassador Tarr, who is home for consultation with Foreign Ministry officials said the Ivorian Minister for Lands and Mines has agreed to provide training for Liberians in the area of oil drilling. He said the Ivorian Minister however suggested that a meeting be arranged with his Liberian counterpart for them to work out the modalities for the training program. Mr. Tarr, in an interview with the NEW LIBERIAN last week, said the Ivorian Information Minister is expected to visit Liberia in the near future to hold talks on ways of improving communication links between the two nations. [Lawrence Thompson] [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 12 Nov 84 pp 1, 6]

BELGIAN OIL PALM AGREEMENT--To what may be described as a major step forward since the creation of Decree No. 82 in February this year calling for the

consolidation of all oil palm activities in the country, the National Palm Corporation (NPC) and a Belgium firm, Vandekechove (VDK), at the weekend signed at \$6.7 million credit agreement in Monrovia. According to an Agriculture Ministry release, the money, which is 100 per cent VDK financing, will be used to supply a vegetable oil refinery with a day's production capacity of 30 to 60 tons palm olein fully neutralized, bridged and deodorized in plastic bottles for use in Liberia. The refinery, expected to be completed in mid 1986, will be located at the Free Zone of Monrovia. It will also produce palm stearin for the export market and will provide job opportunities at all levels of employment. The release further stated that the establishment of the refinery will initially be for import substitution in a bid to supply all local needs resulting from a complete elimination of the import or refined edible oil for local consumption and depending on the demand when the factory reaches its optimum productivity. [Excerpts] [Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 15 Oct 84 pp 1, 10]

FOREIGN TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS--In a bid to further halt financial wastage within government, Head of State Samuel K. Doe Monday announced at a Cabinet meeting that he intends to re-enforce restriction on foreign travels. The Head of State reportedly expressed disgust over the upsurge in foreign travels by government officials, despite imposed restrictions. In the future, he said, government will only authorize those trips which are necessary and of economic benefit to government. Dr. Doe said the same applies to travels resulting from bilateral and multilateral commitments, such as the UN, ECOWAS, OAU and Mano River Union meetings. Those relating to scheduled conferences and meetings of organizations to which Liberia is a member, will be undertaken by diplomatic missions nearest the venue, he explained. In addition, the Head of State said, per diem rates were to be reduced by 25 percent. He furthermore said, for all state visits where accommodation and local travelling expenses are borne by the host country, only 50 percent of the regular per diem rates were to be provided, the Head of State had announced. [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 18 Oct 84 p 8]

LEC CONTRACT WITH DANES--The Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) last Friday signed at \$1.2 million contractual agreement with the Burmeister and Wain (B&W) Company of Denmark to rehabilitate unit 3 of the LEC thermal plant on Bushrod Island in Monrovia. Under the contract, the Danish company will repair the unit within eight and a half months and recommission it to produce its installed capacity of 13.8 megawatts on full load. The contract further stipulates that B&W will train LEC technicians, operators, and engineers and also upgrade the corporation's workshop at the Luke Plant on Bushrod Island. In remarks, Defence Minister, Major General Gray D. Allison, who is chairman of the LEC Board of Directors explained that the Liberian economy had been affected during the past three years by numerous power outages during the dry seasons. [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 15 Oct 84 p 7]

CSO: 3400/344

ECONOMIC PROGRESS, DEMOCRACY SURVIVAL GIVE CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM

Paris LE MONDE in French 1 Dec 84 p 6

[Article by Jean-Claude Pomonti: "Mauritius, or Democracy Despite Itself"]

[Text] The small state in the Indian Ocean has recovered from the serious political crisis of last year. It is beginning to diversify its economy.

Port-Louis--"That is not hypocrisy, Mr Chairman, that is art!" Speaking in French to the speaker of the chamber, the official leader of the opposition, Mr Berenger, was poking fun at his counterpart, Aneerood Jugnauth, the first Hindu prime minister, who listened with a visibly annoyed expression. On the occasion of the recent visit by Indian President Singh, the markings on the ambulances donated by Pretoria--"Gifts of the Republic of South Africa"--were discreetly removed.

The "Speech from the Throne," including the budget presentation, had been given a few days before this session. On this day, Paul Berenger, again minority leader after his election defeat in 1983, had the rostrum.

This French-Mauritian, an elderly "68-er" and outstanding trade union man, who for 9 months until March 1983 had been a "remarkable" minister of finance, in the words of foreign experts, did not spare his criticisms of the government. "I already feel like an old sage," he said with a smile.

At 39, the secretary general of the Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM) remains, at any rate, the God of some and the devil of others on this island with more than 1 million inhabitants. He is a kind of goad with which any government must cope, either with himself or through the opposing camp.

Mr Jugnauth told us: "The opposition? Angels within the Assembly, but they do the country a great wrong." There is no longer anything between the head of the Mauritian Government and his former mentor, Mr Berenger. Today opponents, they traveled a long part of the road together. The former was for 10 years president of the NNM. In June 1982, they were together the poster figures of the left, with Mr Berenger conducting an assault that won them victory against a coalition of the Labor Party, worn threadbare after 13 years in power, and the Mauritian Social Democratic Party (PMSD), a small organization led by Gaetan Duval, a picturesque figure in the island's life, and today prime minister.

The tandem did not long survive the exercise of power. Mr Jugnauth was president of the MMM mainly because he belongs to the Hindu community, which constitutes half the population. It was for the same "ethnic" motive that he became prime minister. An ally of circumstance, Harish Boodhoo, leader of the Malagasy Socialist Party, had been promised the post of deputy prime minister. However, this Hindu, who a few years ago wanted to be regarded as the "Ghandi of Mauritius," has shown himself to be an accomplished maneuverer. He played the prime minister against his minister of finance with such skill that at the end of 9 months Mr Berenger resigned, drawing in his wake 10 other ministers out of 17. "I chose the test of force, the 'showdown,' for we could no longer work," he says today.

This collapse of the leftist cabinet prompted early general elections in August 1983, preceded by a very hard campaign, with all low blows permitted. Certainly, the MMM did obtain 46 percent of the votes, but the electoral districting and the single candidate, one-round vote assured victory for its opponents. The victorious "alliance" was composed of the Militant Socialist Movement (MSM)--the new party of Jugnauth and Boodhoo, the Labor Party, and the PMSD. It dominates the Assembly even though it obtained only a small majority (51 percent of the vote). Defeated by 74 votes in his own district, Mr Berenger was "saved" by the system of "best losers," designed to balance the representation of the various communities and that enables the eight "best losers" to sit in the Assembly.

Politics in Mauritius is an affair of passion. Invective pours out and the press fulminates. How could it be otherwise in this arena that includes, in addition to at least half Hindus, 17 percent Tamils, a quarter Creoles, a small minority of French-Mauritians, and a considerable handful of Chinese; and where the economy is so fragile and dependent on foreign goodwill that in 1984 half of the foreign exchange receipts come from export of sugarcane bought by the EEC at almost triple its price on the world market?

However, the apparently explosive ethnic and religious mix and serious financial difficulties have not yet harmed the basic freedoms on this attractive island. "Our miracle," say the Mauritians, as if barriers, invisible but well placed, had thus far averted the irreparable. A former adviser of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the "father of independence" today promoted to the largely honorary post of governor, put it more prosaically: "The Mauritian miracle is the mixture of Chinese, Indian and Creole dishes, drama, and cultures."

Shortly after its independence, in 1969, Mauritius benefited considerably from a sugar boom thanks to the single crop of cane, with the EEC agreeing to honor a sugar agreement reached in the context of the Commonwealth. Since then, the price of sugar has plunged, and Brussels continues to purchase half a million tons of Mauritian sugar per year, at almost three times the prevailing price on the free market; that is, in a good year--without drought or major typhoons--80 percent of the local production. "A veritable sword of Damocles," Mr Berenger calls it, not being the only one concerned about the pressures by the European beet-growers to eliminate his country's "privilege."

The island is thus going through a time of sugar "restructuring" that has already been the subject of half a dozen plans and a considerable number of underhand maneuvers. Six plants out of 15 will have to close. The monopoly of the owners--the French-Mauritian dinosaurs, whom Socialist Mr Berenger takes care not to defend--is going to be buffeted by an association of capital workers. There is talk of "rationalization"--read "centralization"--in agreement with the IMF and the World Bank.

The minister of agriculture, who for 3 years has headed the Sugar Authority, is convinced that Mauritian sugar is "viable and competitive in the long term, even considering current market prices," and that this profitability is a condition for the island's "social, economic and political stability." He assures us that the "rehabilitation" of this sector must come through improvement of productivity, thus by an "end to the era of daddy's boy."

The minister of agriculture, whose opinion is widely shared here, believes in fact that the "major decisions must be taken quickly" in the sugar sector, in order, as he adds, to "avoid a catastrophe." However, the island's socio-economic equilibrium does not seem to be seriously threatened. Despite the overpopulation--more than 500 inhabitants per square kilometer--Mauritius is genuinely a developing country, as if economically it was more related to Southeast Asia than to neighboring Africa. The per capita annual income is over 10,000 francs. The literacy rate is over 80 percent. There is electricity supply in 150,000 homes, and in this small country there are 30,000 telephone subscribers.

The world recession explains in part the high unemployment rate, about 20 percent, and the fact that about 12,000 people are regarded as undernourished. The standard of living has dropped a little since 1981, and the state is in debt to the point of being forced to appeal to the IMF to obtain a rescheduling of its foreign debt. Finally, to feed its population, the island imports every year between 60,000 and 70,000 tons of rice, which it will never produce, and wheat flour.

"Free Zone" and Tourism

Yet the sugar sector accounts for no more than half of exchange receipts and employs only 85,000 people--including seasonal workers, while other sectors are making a breakthrough. Tea employs today, in small operations, some 10,000 families, and its earnings (300 million rupees, or 5 percent of the foreign exchange earnings) have increased six times in 3 years. The "free zone," of which units are spread throughout the island, employs 32,000 wage-earners, including about 30,000 poorly paid "apprentices" in the textile sector. This zone, which took a long time to become really established, accounts for 25 percent of foreign exchange earnings. Finally, luxury tourism has this year clearly recovered, since 140,000 visitors have been received in 1984, thus breaking the record of 1979, prior to the world recession.

Mauritius is also in the process of investing in livestock raising and food crops with the goal of achieving food self-sufficiency, except for rice and wheat flour. Already, corn is being grown in association with sugarcane.

The "rejuvenation" of the sugar sector, so dear to Mr Jugnauth, is again the subject of negotiation with the World Bank, and the Mauritian Government estimates that it will need an overall package of \$80 million to give the economy the stimulus it needs.

In the view of Mr Berenger, whose period in the finance ministry marked the beginning of the restoration, the current governing officials "are doing everything that should not be done." Others criticize Mr Jugnauth for having tried to "strangle" the press, and above all for practicing "communalism," by conducting the political game on the basis of ethnic considerations, regarding which the prime minister defends himself very energetically. He has outflanked the criticism by deploring the "under-representation of the Hindus" in the public service and by creating a lot of publicity about the visit of President Singh, and finally by proposing--before abandoning the plan--that one of the urns containing Indira Gandhi's ashes be brought to Mauritius.

The main reforms introduced by Mr Berenger have been renewed by the governmental "alliance," which had indeed criticized him for them during the 1983 election campaign. The duties on imports of flour and rice have been maintained. The cancellation of part of the "exit duty" imposed on sugar producers has been renewed in order to give them a little breath for their reconversion. "Diversification" of the economy is a theme whose importance everyone now recognizes. The negotiations with the IMF and the World Bank have resumed.

In Mr Jugnauth's view, Mauritius is "on the right course." Mr Berenger, though less optimistic, nevertheless believes that "unity, that is, the basis, has been preserved." In the interest of "calming the game," he is declining to demand the anticipated elections, despite the fact that he believes that the current government has lost much of its credit--because it has not fulfilled its election promises--and that the MMM, "After having come close to tragedy in 1983," has recaptured an audience that clearly cuts across the ethnic barriers. "We are controlling the situation and we will continue to calm the tensions," he said. Since the forced retirement of Sir Seewoosagur, the former prime minister, 83 years old, the political personnel have received some new blood, and Mauritius is facing its future head-on. Certainly, the climate is not idyllic. "Seditious tracts" and "provocative letters" are being put in mail boxes. However, verbal excesses and underhand maneuvers have not eliminated this little democracy, which, like the bamboo, bends in the wind without breaking.

9920

CSO: 3419/180

INTER-PROVINCE MEETING TAKES PLACE IN TETE

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 24 Nov 84 pp 1, 16

[Text] Yesterday, in Tete, at the opening session of the inter-provincial meeting, the leader of Sofala Province, Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos, said that it was a priority task for the four provinces to eliminate the armed bandits attempting to hamper the construction of socialism in Mozambique.

On the other hand, as the Sofala leader remarked, combating hunger and nakedness is also a current priority, and inter-provincial cooperation should be a mainspring for promoting the present battle.

The Tete meeting, which was a gathering of delegations from Sofala, Zambezia, Manica and Tete, headed by their leaders and governors, was also intended to analyze fulfillment of the decisions from the fourth inter-provincial meeting held in January of this year in Manica.

Yesterday, at the Tete Provincial Assembly Palace, the fifth session of the inter-provincial meeting of the central zone, comprising the provinces of Sofala, Zambezia, Manica and Tete, opened. The opening session was chaired by Politburo member Marcelino dos Santos, leader of Sofala Province.

The meeting was designed to analyze the performance of the tasks decided on at the last session of this organ, held in Manica during January of this year. Hence, the delegations here present will undertake primarily a study of the problems relating to supplies, transportation, communications, defense and security, issues for which study groups were created yesterday as well.

The delegations are headed by the respective provincial leaders and governors, and the presence of the provincial military commanders and directors of the supply, transportation, communications, defense and security areas was also noteworthy.

As Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos stressed upon opening the meeting: "We want to analyze what has already been done about the difficulties that are facing us. In making this assessment, we must, here and now, ascertain where we stand in the process of implementing the decisions from the fourth meeting; and this will enable us to see where we are heading and how we want to move."

Moreover, the Sofala Province leaders declared: "The annihilation of all the imperialist maneuvers, represented currently by the BA's [armed bandits], aimed at hampering the process of constructing socialism in Mozambique, and the elimination of hunger and nakedness, are still the priority at present." As he claimed: "Cooperation among provinces should be a mainspring to promote the battling of those evils."

Description of the Opening Session

At about 1630 hours, and with the participants already in their proper seats, the presidium, consisting of the provincial leaders and governors from the central zone, opened the meeting in the conference room.

Immediately thereafter, the host governor, Eduardo Arao, delivered an address in which he offered those present a depiction of the current situation in Tete Province. He mentioned the existing problems, namely, the effects of the drought and the harmful actions by the armed bandits. On the other hand, he underscored the efforts that the entire population is expending to surmount those problems. As for the battle against the armed bandits, he cited the progress made, due partly to the bond between the people and the FPLM, and also emphasized the role of the people's vigilance.

With regard to the struggle to minimize the effects of the drought, and thereby eliminate hunger, he stressed the opening of dams and the use of irrigation using the "well sweep" process in some districts; which had met with great success in Angonia, Macanga, Maravia and Moatize.

Also to minimize the effects of this calamity, which has been suffered constantly for three years and which has already victimized thousands of people, he mentioned with great satisfaction the emergency aid rendered by the international community since April of this year.

For example, he reported to the participants that an American organization, CARE, had sent to the government of Tete Province 23 trucks to minimize the problem of transporting products to and from this section of the country.

Marcelino dos Santos left Beira at 1050 hours, making a stop at the Manica airport where he joined the delegation from this province and from there continued on to Tete.

Mario da Graca Machungo, who was in Beira, traveled in the same airplane that was carrying the groups from Sofala and Manica.

The delegations were warmly received by the population, which sang and performed dances that are part of our cultural heritage.

The meeting will conclude today, Saturday.

2909

CSO: 3442/107

REPORTERS VISIT WESTERN TETE PROVINCE, DESCRIBE CONDITIONS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28, 30 Nov, 3 Dec 84

[Three-part article by Salomao Moyana (AIM)]

[28 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] We arrive at the headquarters of Magoe district on an afternoon typical of Tete Province: severely scorching sun, and dry dust left in all corners by 4 years of merciless drought. Country folk are amazed to see a Toyota in an area which does not mind spending months without being disturbed by the roar of mechanical engines. There are bovine cattle and hogs, unhitched and in full view, on a futile search for the water holes which Tete's inclement sun has dried up. There are children with rickets, naively displaying their stomachs swollen from malnutrition. We have finally arrived in Magoe, the district bordering the fraternal Republic of Zimbabwe; hence a district with "Zimbabwenized" people, owing to the age-old coexistence with those on the other side of the fence.

The first impression that came over us was that it is not easy to reach Magoe from the city of Tete. What is easy is to reach there from Harare, because there the infrastructure required for travel has been created.

From the city of Tete to Magoe, we had to confront 260 kilometers of a "flat" route; in other words, we covered 100 kilometers on the paved portion and the rest on a combination of narrow paths and compressed earth. It took us 5 hours to span the distance separating us from that section of the country. We traveled in a fast vehicle procured in the city of Tete after a week of delicate "negotiations" with local institutions.

When are discerned the peak of the mountain at the foot of which lies the small town that is the district headquarters, the driver guiding us, rather toughened by this kind of work, showed a pathetic smile and said aloud: "Do you know that where we are going there is no piped water nor fuel for generating electric light?"

"No, we didn't know, but what is the purpose of that question?" I inquired.

"Well, I supposed there in Maputo, after a trip of this kind, you would have a glass of ice water or something similar," remarked the man, keeping his foot on the accelerator of the Land Cruiser.

We smiled a little, and then I told him that even in Maputo we would not drink that ice water, because in Maputo, even though it is Maputo, there are no freezers for sale nor is there that "something similar" that he had mentioned. From then on, the topic of conversation was the lack of products being experienced in both Niassa and Maputo, Tete, Beira and all of Mozambique. Our driver commented with specific data gleaned from his thorough knowledgeability concerning the black market in effect in the city of Tete.

A Good Reception.

"We have arrived in Magoe," I said at the beginning of this article. The district administrator, Joaquim Manuel, received us at his home. He did so like a father meeting his children after years of separation and yearning. I mean that he received us with great kindness and ease. He was having lunch when we arrived there, and invited us to join him. I recall that the invitation was a relief and quickly accepted, because the contrary would only be warranted by some inability on our part to realize that this kind of hunger can be treated only with a meal such as the one that we devoured there.

While the plates were being emptied, we explained to the administrator the purpose of our journey to that part of Mozambique. We stressed that we were seeking escape routes of the Mozambican fish from Cahora Bassa Lagoon to outside the country; because in the city of Tete we had heard from the provincial government leaders that the fish from the Zambeze River, owing to the lack of products of prime necessity for bartering with the fishermen, reach as far away as Botswana and South Africa. That claim made an immense impact on us, and we decided to find the routes whereby those fish escape and to alert all Mozambicans to the seriousness of the situation; because we do not want Mozambique, in the future, to be (naively) importing its own fish from South Africa or the interior countries.

The other concern that we voiced to administrator Joaquim Manuel was this: "What has the Mozambican Government already invested in the former liberated zones of Mossenguezzi, Doe, Dewetewe, Chnagua, Nhambia, Mahanda, Zambeze and Tsatsa, all situated in the locality of Mucumbura, next to the Zimbabwe border?"

We also asked the administrator how Magoe district had survived (is surviving) the hunger that has affected the entire southern part of Tete. Joaquim Manuel, a calm man who is rather careful in his statements, wanted to know the method that we would use to find out everything we wanted to know.

We explained that we would like to visit all those areas, talk with the people about their problems and, finally, talk to the administrator or the governor (if necessary) to confirm certain claims. The Magoe administrator, in addition to agreeing with our program, offered to accompany us on those "forays" into the jungle.

He said that we would go to the former liberated zones first, and later seek the fish routes. However, while still at the administrator's residence, we learned that the main route for that escape was located in Chinhudzi, 390 kilometers west of the city of Tete.

The Preparations

When night fell, we had already devised the program for the following day. So, we supplied our Toyota, putting into its bed three large pots, two bags of cornmeal, a package containing blankets, several kilograms of sugar, a package of tea, three containers of water and 60 liters of gasoline for the Toyota to drink along the way. In addition to this small load (which would serve as rations for 2 days), about seven persons boarded the bed, including four armed with light weapons.

However, before the night ended we visited the neighborhoods of the Magoe district headquarters and observed the extent of the underdevelopment in the local infrastructures. We also learned about the meagerness of the infrastructure, essentially that related to the water supply. For example, we heard and personally saw that the population in the headquarters locality is experiencing enormous difficulties in obtaining water. There is no well in the vicinity of the town of Magoe, and the only place where one can find water for all the people in that locality is in a natural spring located at the foot of one of the hills surrounding the town. In addition to the people, all the livestock in the area visit that spring; and, other than this, there is no other known source of water in the vicinity.

None of the faucets in the entire town of Magoe have water, because it lacks the motor to pump that liquid from the natural spring located about half a kilometer away. But this situation does not exist only in the district headquarters, but also, in all of Magoe, where there is no piped water, and it is not easy to drill wells with the home-made implements that the local people have available.

Let us move on to the housing problem of Magoe's people, because houses made of zinc plating are as yet unknown in the region, much less those made of masonry. Let us stop at the problem of electric power, There is in the town an electrical generator which operates only 2 nights a week, because "we are saving the little fuel that we have," as a district director commented. There are also restrictions during those 2 days of operation. The motor is connected from 1900 to 2100 hours. There is darkness the rest of the time.

The reader who has never slept in Magoe may be unable to imagine the life of an "intellectual" in that part of Mozambique. In addition to the fact that there are no theaters or any kind of organized recreation, this means that in intellectual or peasant who likes to read at night is prevented from doing so and cannot do any writing. This is the problem of the elementary school-teachers with whom I talked in that town.

To summarize, the district of Magoe is one of the most disadvantaged in Mozambique. This district has always been isolated, even during the colonial period. This is why its people are more familiar with Zimbabwe than with Mozambique. But, at the same time, I think that a district of this kind is a test of our ability to create what is our own; because we have heard leaders comment

on various occasions that our citizens are ill-conceived because they were conceived by the colonists. Now, Mozambican, there is Magoé, bare and untouched, waiting for some investment!

[30 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] It dawned calmly that Friday, 12 October. At 0400 hours, when the crowing roosters perched on the colorless branches of the imbondeiros of Deus Boroma (god of Magoé) were heralding daybreak to the world and (with it) the arrival of another harsh, dry day to aggravate the lot of peasants in Magoé (meanwhile) our Land Cruiser was already scaling the ups and downs of the "extremely sharp" peak which, by itself, monopolizes the route between the district headquarters and the historic locality of Mocumbura, very close to the Zimbabwe border.

We had 60 kilometers to cover before we would get a glimpse of Mocumbura. When we had already traveled 35 kilometers of the way we noticed with chagrin that one of the rear tires of our vehicle had allowed a rock splinter to penetrate its inner tube, thus interrupting the journey which had gradually become pleasant. "Disaster!" exclaimed someone.

Half an hour later, the flat tire problem had been solved and the trip continued more speedily than ever. We reached Mocumbura when the Tete sun was starting to hurt our heads. We were received by the administrator of the locality, David Manhacha, whom the district administrator, Joaquim Manuel, invited to continue on with us to the former liberated zones in the southern section of this locality.

David Manhacha, in turn, invited the chief of staff of the FPLM [Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique] in the locality, Bernardo Mandiate. These leaders are young, enthusiastic and replete with information about their area of activity. They have figures on everything; they know how many head of cattle their locality has, how many plows, how many yoke of oxen and how many are needed to achieve the prosperity of the area's peasants. In short, they are leaders with the drive to direct what has been assigned to them.

From the Mocumbura headquarters we headed in the direction of the liberated zone of Tsatsa. We were riding in a north-south direction and knew that from there it was necessary to cover 58 kilometers to reach our goal. We also knew that, before arriving in Tsatsa, we would stop in the liberated zones of Calue, Dewetewe and Nhambia.

In Dewetewe, we were told that this circular area is, traditionally, a major corn and mapira producer, but at present it has been seriously stricken by famine and its people are emigrating to Zimbabwe in order to earn their livelihood there. Owing to this emigration, there are currently only 70 families residing in Dewetewe, totaling 280 persons. These families are still engaged in cultivating the land, but they are struggling with a lack of seed, hoes and scientific and technical assistance from the entities responsible for applying science to agriculture.

In Dewetewe (and later in Nhambia and Tsatsa), we realized that there were no yokes of oxen, because the livestock that the local population had was decimated, first by the war of national liberation and second, by the war of aggression provoked by Rhodesia against Mozambique. So, livestock is needed for the former liberated zones.

We also stopped in Nhambia, and asked peasant Randzilati Chicanesse to show us the way to the path leading to Tsatsa. But that was difficult, because there is no path from Nhambia to Tsatsa; only small by-paths on which the local peasants travel. And I should say here that we cut our way through the brush to reach Tsatsa.

In Nhambia, we left our pots and pans, products and cooking personnel so that, by 1500 hours, upon returning from Tsatsa, we would have our first meal of that day.

When we showed up in Tsatsa, most of the inhabitants of that area were gathered in the house of the first assistant of the Circle Committee drinking "pombe," a nutritious but intoxicating Kafir beverage made of a mixture of mapira and cornmeal. No one was bothered by our presence (not even by that of the administrator). They all continued drinking in the heat, after having invited us, too, to raise those gourds to our mouths. We enjoyed ourselves greatly!

Then we inquired whether this was some kind of celebration, or whether they were merely drinking out of habit. The answer was resounding:

"We are marking Teacher's Day. Don't you know that today is a national holiday?"

We said that we knew it was Teacher's Day, but that we were unaware that it was a national holiday. Then they added:

"This means that you are out of date. We heard a long time ago that Teacher's Day is a holiday in Mozambique."

Since they were in the majority, we were defeated and promised to ask the ONP [National Teachers Organization] secretary-general whether it was true that Teacher's Day is a national holiday. But, out of mere curiosity, we asked the residents of Tsatsa whether there was any teacher among them. No one was a teacher; furthermore, there is no school in Tsatsa. The nearest school is the one at which we had left our pots and pans, in Nhambia, almost 7 kilometers from Tsatsa. During our stay there, we talked with the only teacher in that area. He holds courses for 45 students in three classes, and his name is Antonio Escova. When we passed through Nhambia, Antonio Escova was skinning a gazelle that he had just caught.

In Tsatsa, Nhambia and Calue, the people told us that they greatly missed the commanders who had led the armed struggle in that area between 1968 and 1974. They all told us that they remembered Comdr Antonio Hama Thai and some of the

secretaries of the local committees claimed to have been sworn in by that leader during the armed struggle for liberation.

The first assistant of the Circle Committee told us, ironically, that "independence stole our leaders, taking them to Maputo; independence did harm here by that, since we no longer have our leaders, and we are lacking everything, including hoes."

This sentiment was voiced by several other peasants residing in those liberated zones. These peasants are former combatants in the struggle for the country's liberation and now, 10 years after that struggle, the former combatants from those areas miss their colleagues with whom they created independence.

From the standpoint of investments, I should say, to tell the truth, that nothing was invested after independence in any of the liberated zones in the locality of Mocumbura. There is very fertile land there, virgin in many instances, but the people have no seed or yokes of oxen, not to mention tractors; because there is only one in the entire district of Magoe. This "one" is not used for agriculture either, because it has no farming attachments (plow). Hence it is used only to haul water to the district headquarters. Therefore, I am entitled to write that there is no tractor in all of Magoe; something which is seriously detrimental to the 4,000 families residing there.

In addition to what I have noted, a sick person in Tsatsa can receive treatment only in the headquarters of the locality of Mocumbura; that is, after having traveled 58 kilometers in the dense jungle. There are no stores in that entire geographical area, not even a consumer cooperative. The people here make baskets, sieves and mats, and go to Zimbabwe to sell them for Zimbabwean dollars or barter them for products of prime necessity to Zimbabwe, primarily salt (since Zimbabwe has no salt mines).

We asked the first assistant of the Tsatsa Circle Committee to sell us some of the sieves that we saw in his house. He refused to sell us these items for meticals, informing us that he would sell only for dollars, or barter for dried fish, because "with meticals, besides there being no store, I have no products to buy," as that official told us.

In Dewetewe, we saw an extensive lowland, a depression favorable for farming during this period of prolonged drought. We witnessed the efforts of the local populace to make use of this lowland; however, the output is meager for the reasons previously cited. With regard to this depression, the administrator of Mocumbura told us that there is an international organization interested in a project aimed at making use of this potential, with a view toward raising the production of grains in the area. But, what we learned and found extremely shocking was the absolute lack of any concrete plan on the part of the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture for this very fertile area.

To conclude this part of the commentary, I would like to report that, in the former liberated zones of Mocumbura, the people continue to exist, despite the difficulties that have been mentioned. And I cite them so that all of

us may solve them; because, otherwise, it would be hypocritical of us in Maputo to claim that we were inspired by the liberated zones, while the liberated zones are looking to Maputo, waiting for some investment that will improve the people's lives and, furthermore, the lives of the people who liberated the people.

[3 Dec 84 p 2]

[Text] On the night of 13 October, after our trip to the former liberated zones of Mossenguezi and Kapati, and to the "international" fish market in Chinhudzi, we held a lengthy talk with David Manhacha, administrator of the locality of Mocumbura, the most heavily populated one in the district of Magoé.

During this conversation, which did not end until after midnight, we gained a complete understanding of the economic and social reality prevailing in that corner of the country. We admit that we began our conversation with a somewhat unenlightening question (although it was progressive, because it dispelled our doubts):

"How many people have died here in Mocumbura from the famine caused by the drought?" we asked bluntly.

"No one here has died of starvation," we were told by David Manhacha, who then asked us for a little quiet so that he might brief us on what has taken place in that locality during the past 12 months.

He began by telling us that the 1983-84 agricultural campaign in that area was nothing great, because of the persistent drought. He reported that, in order to cope with the failure of the aforementioned campaign, the local authorities organized an emergency program whereby the peasants were mobilized to grow second season crops. The population of the liberated zones of Zambeze and Dewetewe were outstanding in fulfilling this program, making use of the local existing lowlands to produce vegetables.

David Manhacha made a point of stressing to us the fact that, despite the lack of work tools and technical information, the peasants of Mocumbura had dug 90 vegetable gardens, in all the settlements, during March of this year.

However, the vegetable gardens and those for other crops dug by the population during that period turned out to be rather meager to prevent the worsening of the famine crisis in the area. So, we asked David Manhacha to explain why there were no fatalities in the locality.

The administrator of Mocumbura declared: "What really prevented human fatalities here in Mocumbura was the fish which the population catch over in the district of Cahora Bassa, and barter here on the border for products of prime necessity, especially salt and flour, with Zimbabwe."

He said: "Over 600 persons per day arrived to gather here in this yard," and went on to say that this had been "a rather sad time, a time when we observed personally our resources leaving right here for Zimbabwe."

He recalled that several injustices and evasions had occurred during the process of bartering livestock for products.

That official added: "A goat was often bartered for only 20 kilograms of flour, and an ox or large cow for two bags of flour."

During the course of the conversation with the administrator of Mocumbura, we were told about the transportation problems encountered for returning to their homes by those who come to the locality's headquarters in large numbers. For example, we learned that the absolute absence of transportation, compounded by the inefficiency of the access routes to that area, causes some people to end up consuming the products procured on the very site of the barter. Because of this situation, a large number of people, victims of famine, have opted to settle permanently in the locality of Mocumbura itself. For this reason, that area has received 125 new families from the locality of Estima, in the district of Cahora Bassa.

Another sector of the population is the one which was unable to return home because of the lack of transportation, and opted to cross the border and become employed as "contract workers" on Zimbabwean farms, in exchange for food.

There are no statistics in Magoe on Zimbabwe. We learned only that "there are many people going to Zimbabwe." However, we found out that the Mozambican population is far removed from finding better living conditions in Zimbabwe, mainly because while as many as 90 vegetable gardens were dug in Mocumbura, the peasants in the "neighboring country" cannot dig their own; they work only for subsistence barter (this is another type of wage-earning labor!).

This difficult situation on the other side of the border has caused much immigration (returning) of Mozambicans who, after an ill-fated venture in search of flour, decide to return to the mother country; even though they are aware that their country is still far from preventing them from dying of starvation.

Since, when they leave, the people do not take their leave through the country's administrative authorities, upon returning they are also afraid to appear before the authorities; and this prevents the latter from finding out how many people have already returned from the other side. The Mocumbura administrator told us in regard to this matter that, as of last September, he had located 124 individuals who returned without appearing before the administrative authorities. He assumes that the number of citizens in those circumstances is far higher than is known to date.

But, while many citizens are attempting to return to the country, because they have reached the conclusion that life "is not easy on the other side

either," there are some in the zone itself who continue climbing over the wire to find out "on the spot" what the subsistence problem is like.

The administrator told us that, at present, the locality's food situation is considered better than during past months. He based his claim on the fact that the district of Mago received sizable amounts of donations sent by certain international organizations last September. In the distribution made on the district level, they supplied the locality of Mocumbura with 38,430 tons of Kalahari corn, 7,800 tons of mapira and 2,574 tons of nhemba beans. Now, the problem is how to take those products to the people who reside in Mossenguezi, for example, who are exactly 78 kilometers away. This problems is currently being posed in Mocumbura because, as David Manhacha remarks, the locality "doesn't even have one bicycle." In fact, we noticed that there was not one car in Mocumbura; and the people who cannot manage to walk from the various parts of the locality to the headquarters run the risk of not receiving their shares.

By way of example, I might mention that, the day before, when we returned from Chinhudzi, we stopped in a village called Doe (nearly 24 kilometers from the headquarters).

As soon as we had stopped, a very old man approached us hastily and, in good Zezulo, addressed the two administrators, whom he asked, bluntly:

"Why is it that you are not sending us any food here?"

The Mocumbura administrator tried to explain the transportation problem, but the explanation did not fill the stomach of the old man; whereupon we took off, with the old man still cursing each and every one.

At the end of our talk with Manhacha, we asked what the situation was like in the zone's health area. He told us in reply that the health center that exists in the locality's headquarters had just undergone a period of "long-standing neglect," during which it was not even receiving aspirin. However, he added, during the past few weeks he had noticed the situation improving.

However, the administrator claimed that the center needs at least one vehicle, a freezer and a preventive medicine agent; because, he said: "With the short supplies at our disposal, it is very difficult to meet the population's needs."

It was past midnight when we concluded our talk with David Manhacha and headed back to the headquarters of Mago district, where, the next morning, we would contact the district administrator, Joaquim Manuel.

2909

CSO: 3442/109

MOZAMBIQUE

INFORMATION MINISTER ON TIES WITH ITALY

PM181328 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 14 Dec 84 p 8

[Interview with Mozambique Information Minister Jose Luis Cabaco by Marcella Emiliani in Milan; date not given]

[Excerpt] I met with Mozambique Information Minister Jose Luis Cabaco in Milan. It was at the end of a fortnight's visit that took him virtually all around Italy: Following a meeting with political forces in Rome he had meetings with what he called the "local realities" of the north--regional and provincial authorities and committees of solidarity with Mozambique but also volunteer work organizations and training centers. The visit provided further proof of the excellent relations of cooperation between his country and ours. Within this context I could not omit to ask Cabaco whether the killing of the two Italian experts in Mozambique and particular the way in which their bodies were found had not harmed relations of trust between Italy and Mozambique.

His reply was very forthright: "We shoulder our responsibilities in full, but why does nobody mention the role played by Portugal in this affair?" The South African Secret Services and former Portuguese colonials backed by political forces in Lisbon--whose names have been identified in the Portuguese newspapers--have been, and to some extent still are, the main source of aid and political and ideological support for RENAMO, the antigovernment guerrilla movement.

But Italian-Mozambique relations have not grown tense since the killing of our experts, and the Mozambique Liberation Front government much appreciated Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Mario Raffaelli's recent visit to Mozambique to check on the security of our fellow countrymen working on development projects there. "But," Cabaco added, "Raffaelli did more than that: He asserted the Italian Government's desire to strengthen its cooperation ties with Maputo, which at the time constituted an important political gesture."

Cabaco made another important point concerning Italian-Mozambique relations when he stressed several times that these relations are "direct" in order to dispel outright any rumors or misapprehensions on the part of those now keen to enter or invest in Mozambique who believe it is easier or more correct to do so via South Africa following the 16 March signing of the Nkomati accord between Maputo and Pretoria.

CSO: 3428/4

FUNERAL OF PRIEST KILLED BY ARMED BANDITS REPORTED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Nov 84 p 8

[Text] Yesterday, in the city of Xai-Xai, over 5,000 people attended the funeral ceremony for Francisco Samuel, a Mozambican priest of the Franciscan Order, who was assassinated by the armed bandits last Monday.

Present at the rites was the archbishop of Maputo, D. Alexandre dos Santos, as well as representatives of other religious faiths.

The Mozambican priest was murdered in the Maluana area, near Manhica, as he was traveling to the city of Maputo from Xai-Xai.

Wounded on the same occasion was a nun of Mozambican nationality, and three other Mozambicans who, on this occasion, were riding in the vehicle driven by the priest.

A source from the archdiocese of the Catholic Church disclosed that those wounded are confined in the Xai-Xai provincial hospital.

Ordained in 1974, Francisco Samuel, aged 40, was a native of Maxixe, in Inhambane Province. He is the first native priest to be assassinated by the armed bandits, after the latter had physically eliminated three foreign priests.

The first instance occurred during 1981, in Inhambane Province, with the death of the Portuguese priest, Francisco Moraes, aged 54; and, 2 years later, the misfortune came to Alirio Baptista, aged 50 and also Portuguese, in Nampula Province. The third case, nearly 3 months ago, in Zambezia Province, had as a victim the Italian priest, Xavier Torreboli, aged 47, who was machine-gunned and burned inside the vehicle that he had been driving.

2909

CSO: 3442/109

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT FROM CHINA--Yesterday afternoon, in Maputo, the ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Wang Hao, delivered a donation consisting of medical and hospital equipment and pharmaceuticals to our country's health minister. This gift was received by the vice-minister of health, Fernando Vaz, and is estimated as worth \$50,000. According to the Chinese ambassador, the materials are intended to facilitate the work of the Chinese physicians working in our country, particularly at the Machava General Hospital and Pemba Provincial Hospital. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 22 Nov 84 p 1] 2909

CSO: 3442/107

BRIEFS

CHINESE BOOK DONATION--An exposition of Chinese art objects and books was held at the Oumarou Ganda Cultural Center for eleven days running, from October 20 - 30. This exposition is a manifestation of the friendly relations between Niger and the People's Republic of China. At the end of the exposition, the Chinese Embassy and the Chinese Foreign Trade Society offered books to different service groups, in particular, the CCOG, which received 1,000 books, the Niger Women's Association, which received 500 to 600 children's books and the Ministry of National Education, which received the same number as the NWA. These books deal with the literature, art and history of China. [Excerpts] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 2, 3, 4 Nov 84 p 2] 9825

EDF DEVELOPMENT FINANCING--The European Community has just decided to furnish 700 million CFA francs to finance a development project in the Air valleys. The project is of interest to farmers involved in the cultivation of cereals and vegetables. Among the activities planned are the digging of wells, establishment of credit lines for agricultural equipment, provision of inputs, and assistance in the organization of cooperatives and marketing. The goal is to provide growers with a more favorable technical and economic environment and to respond to their essential needs. The expected results include an increase in the production of cereals and improved distribution of green vegetables. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 12, 13, 14 Oct 84 p 5] 9825

USSR BOOK EXPOSITION--As part of the cultural cooperation agreement between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Niger, an exposition of Soviet books was opened Monday in the Oumarou Ganda Cultural Center by the USSR ambassador to Niger, his excellency Kladmir Koudachkine, in the presence of the Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Amadou Djibo. In his presentation speech, Koudachkine declared that the organization of this exposition was not only a testimony to the mutual understanding and growing respect between the USSR and our country, but would also contribute to the deepening and strengthening of the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples. [Excerpt] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 17 Oct 84 p 4] 9825

FRG WATER CONVEYANCE ACCORD--The minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, his excellency Ide Oumarou, and the AI diplomatic aide of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Niger, Dieter Wachter, signed an accord and an arrangement yesterday, October 25, 1984. The accord, for 7 million DM or approximately 1.5 billion CFA francs, is to finance the "Water Conveyance in 5 Secondary Centers" project. This project will aid in the improvement of the drinking water supply in the Tera, Gaya and Madrounfa regions. The arrangement is part of the FRG government's ongoing support of the Republic of Niger's efforts to achieve security in its food supply. In 1984, for example, a gift of 1.25 million DM, or 187.5 CFA francs made it possible to purchase cereals for our people suffering from the drought. [Excerpt] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 26, 27, 28 Oct 84 p 1] 9825

ADB, FRG FUND DRAINAGE PROJECT--According to Director of Urban Planning, Kalla Ankourao, at the Ministry of Public Works and Urban Planning, major improvements in rainwater and sewer drainage (including garbage pick-up) will be made in Niamey city during the 1984-85 fiscal year. These projects, at the cost of a mere 2.7 million CFA francs, will be financed by the African Development Bank (ADB), which will provide 1.920 billion CFA francs, the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), which will furnish 600 million and the state, which will contribute 180 million. ADB and Niger's funds will finance the construction of storm drains in the Abidjan and Route de Filingue districts. Besides these improvements in rainwater drainage, there is also another emergency program, for garbage and sewage disposal, which will be financed by the FRG. [Excerpt] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 23 Oct 84 p 1] 9825

CSO: 3419/150

CONNECTION WITH VATICAN BANK SCANDAL

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Dec 84 p 4

[Article by Henry Reuter]

[Text]

NAIROBI — A shadowy businessman and former intelligence agent — wanted for questioning about the 1982 fraudulent bankruptcy of Italy's Banco Ambrosiano from which R2 billion disappeared — is holed up in the Seychelles Islands.

He is Mr Francesco Pazienza, a one-time employee of France's super-secret SDECE, who became a prominent Italian financier.

Mr Pazienza disappeared several months ago when Italian authorities issued a warrant for his arrest. He has been on the run ever since and is understood to have appeared at Mahe in the Seychelles in early November.

He is reported to have stayed at the house of an Italian businessman, Mr Mario Ricci, who has close connections with the Seychelles Government.

Sources in the Seychelles say that, on November 7, a party of Italian police flew into the island's international airport in a Lear Jet, questioned Mr Pazienza and later left.

Mr Pazienza is reported to have flown soon afterwards to Praslin Island, another of the Seychelles Group, where he may still be living. It is not clear whether or not he is receiving protection from the Seychelles Government.

Mr Ricci has worked closely with the Seychelles Government since he arrived on Mahe five

years ago. His GMR Group, which also has offices in Italy, New York, Switzerland and Luxembourg, handles tourist publicity and public relations for the Seychelles Government.

He has also acquired property and tea estates on the island and has reportedly sought government sanction to launch a Seychelles Bank and to acquire an island for the development of tourism.

Spokesmen for the Seychelles Resistance Movement, the MPR, which is waging a clandestine struggle against President Rene's Seychelles Government, allege that Mr Ricci was responsible for bugging a London hotel room, resulting in the disclosure, by the London *Sunday Times*, of a 1982 plot to overthrow President Rene's Government with the aid of mercenaries.

They claim that Mr Ricci's associates are still carrying out surveillance of Seychelles dissidents abroad.

It is only in recent months that Mr Pazienza has emerged as a key figure in the Banco Ambrosiano affair which involved the Vatican Bank and scandalised the Pope's trusted financial advisers.

After serving with the SDECE, Mr Pazienza developed a close working relationship with General Guiseppe Santovito, controversial head of the Italian counter-intelligence

agency, SISMI.

The general was a known member of the "Propaganda Two" lodge — an illegal Masonic society which is still under investigation for a long list of suspected crimes, including a plot to topple democracy in Italy and replace it with a right-wing dictatorship.

"Propaganda Two" is also accused of trying to discourage prosecutors from investigating a bomb massacre of 80 people in Zbolona, Northern Italy, and from probing a possible connection with the Masonic society.

Mr Pazienza's name has been linked with intrigues plotted by an inner group within SISMI.

Italian police also link Mr Pazienza with the mysterious death of Banco Ambrosiano chief Mr Roberti Calvi who was found hanged under London's Blackfriars Bridge in June 1982.

It was Mr Pazienza who introduced Sardinian millionaire Mr Flavio Carboni to Mr Calvi and it was Mr Pazienza who benefitted from a generous loan made by Mr Calvi to Mr Carboni shortly before the banker's death.

PROTECTION

Sources in Italy believe that Mr Pazienza may enjoy the protection of the United States administration because of his role in rescuing Nato General James Lee Dozier from his Red Brigades captors two years ago.

Mr Pazienza is also reported to have played a role in obtaining information about Mr Billy Carter's business relations with Libya. This developed into the "Billygate" affair which gravely harmed President Carter's re-election chances.

Mr Pazienza has also had close contacts with former US Secretary of State General Alexander Haig and arranged a meeting in 1981 between the general and Italian Christian Democrat Party secretary Mr Flaminio Piccoli.

IMPORTANCE OF U.S. ELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL POLITICS

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 7 Nov 84 p 15

/Text/ If one watches an important world event of a political nature such as the American presidential election from here on the southern tip of Africa, it is easy to lose one's perspective and to imagine that American voters are terribly concerned about what happens here.

The manner in which leftists oppose it strengthens this impression.

We must not, however, allow ourselves to be misled, because although the average American has strong feelings over our racial policy, South Africa and southern Africa are, after all, very far away.

As South Africans themselves could see in the second television debate over foreign affairs between President Ronald Reagan and his Democratic opponent, Walter Mondale, our own part of the world played a very minor and casual role in the campaign.

Most important for Americans are domestic affairs, followed by foreign issues such as relations with the Soviet Union, the Middle East, and Central America. This does not mean that South Africa does not play a role in American party politics as such. Naturally, we put a lot of importance in the outcome.

Radical leftists such as Rev Jesse Jackson have, all along, manifested an almost fanatical anger, so as to cause unpleasantness for President Reagan over what they label "collusion" with a "racist government," and in order to force the South African question to the center of the campaign.

They were unsuccessful in this, but one should not underestimate such attempts.

South Africans can now be prepared for Democratic policies such as those of Rev Jackson and Mr Stephen Solarz and Harold Volpe (the latter two are members of the House of Representatives), which will launch a sustained campaign against South Africa in order to attack us in all areas: diplomatic, economic, cultural, military, etc.--to isolate us and boycott us.

They think South Africa is a good way to complicate matters for the Reagan administration.

Some Democratic members of the House of Representatives have already announced that early in the new year they will deny landing rights to South African Airways.

It is precisely for this reason that the results of the elections for the House, and for a third of the seats in the Senate, are so important, because if the Democrats win, which is unlikely, and they broaden their majority in the House and Senate, South Africa and those who have its interests at heart are going to have a hard time preventing all sorts of boycott measures.

And don't underestimate the keen campaign of municipalities, churches and universities to withdraw their financial support from companies investing in South Africa.

On their part President Reagan and his supporters will pursue with anticipation their policy of constructive involvement in all of South Africa. It is not that they love South Africa so much or that they agree with its racial policies.

In various speeches delivered in recent months, American Government leaders have expressed their country's position frankly. A recurrent theme in their speeches is that they see the situation in South Africa and Southern Africa in the light of the broad, international power struggle between East and West.

To hinder the Soviet Union, stability in Southern Africa is necessary, and "apartheid" stands, according to them, in the way of stability. But they do not want to sit on the fence and yell, like the radicals do; they believe much more can be achieved through constructive means, and a dialog carried on with all concerned parties.

In the American political framework it can be hazardous undertaking, since the caucus arrangement in that country is much looser than it is in South Africa. The government must sometimes take great pains to persuade its own people in Congress not to support Democratic boycott plans.

For South Africa the Reagan policy is infinitely better than the rigid, ideological rhetoric and backbiting of the leftists. It creates the opportunity for him to advance causes he espouses through a purposeful policy of reform--not to comply with the wishes of the Americans, but because it is in the best interests of the nation.

How South Africa will cope with its affairs from now on will determine the lengths to which the Reagan administration will go to help avert the worst attacks against us. But know this: if the radicals in Washington get their way, they will not rest until they have done everything in their power to hurt South Africa as much as possible. They will seize every opportunity to do this.

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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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11 January 1985

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SOVIET AMBASSADOR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Nov 84 p 12

[Article by Lollo Agostinho: "The Ambassador of the USSR Has Spoken on the October Revolution"]

[Text] In connection with 67th anniversary of the great socialist revolution of October, an occasion that will be commemorated on 7 November and which radically transformed the entire march of mankind's historic development, opening a new period of transition from capitalism to socialism, Arnold Kalinin, ambassador of the USSR, held a press conference at the Anibal de Melo Press Center.

This important event, which marks the triumph of the revolutions for national liberation and the collapse of the imperialist colonial systems, began in 1917, when the workers of Russia, led by the party of Lenin, crushed the power of the exploiting class, created the first state of workers and peasants in the world, and began the construction of a society based on social justice. The October revolution is unmatched from the standpoint of its influence on the march of world history. It aroused the spirit of revolution in the working masses of all countries and continents, it put to work the powerful forces of social progress, which, in a period that was historically brief, changed the face of the planet.

After analyzing the long historic past of the Soviet people and the red army, the diplomat told the journalists that the great victory over fascism, the 40th anniversary of which will be celebrated throughout the world in 1985, was and continues to be a good lesson and a stern warning to all those who like to engage in warlike adventures, for, he concluded, they will be inevitably and completely defeated.

With reference to the great victories achieved by the Soviet people in recent years, the ambassador of the USSR reported that the 26th Convention of the CPSU, after studying the significance of the construction, development and perfecting of genuine socialist society for the peaceful future of all mankind, outlined a concrete program of creative actions embracing every aspect of life, ranging from the development of the forces of production to the matter of ideology. "At the present time, only two days are needed to produce what was turned out in the period of an entire year before the revolution, a fact which

confirms the first-rank position held by the Soviet Union on the world scale in the production of oil, the mining of iron ore, the production of mineral fertilizers, tractors, cement, locomotives and certain other products."

On the question of the positive political line of the Soviet Union with regard to Africa, ambassador Kalinin laid stress on a statement made by Konstantin Chernenko, secretary general of the CPSU, in which he asserts that the attitude of the USSR with respect to African problems is a frank one, based on principles that do not foster interests of any sort that oppose the aspirations of the Africans themselves, and, at the same time, is decidedly adverse to the transformation of this continent into a stage for global or, more than that, military confrontation.

Continuing on the same topic, the Soviet diplomat went on to say that his country declares itself in favor of the immediate granting of genuine independence to Namibia, based on the implementation of the decisions of the U.N. in their totality, including resolution 435 of the United Nations Security Council and the transferral of the power to the patriotic forces of Namibia, which are represented by SWAPO, the only legitimate representative of their country. "There is no doubt that the people of Namibia, with the support of Progressive Africa and the entire international community, will achieve independence."

With regard to the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the RPA [People's Republic of Angola], the Soviet ambassador expressed his pride as he witnessed the deep appreciation shown for the internationalist labors of the Soviet doctors, builders of power bridges, professors and pilots, who, at the side of internationalists from Cuba and other countries of the socialist community, are making a substantial contribution to the efforts of the Angolan people in the areas of national reconstruction and defense against foreign aggression.

8089

CSO: 3442/85

USSR DAY OBSERVED AT INTERNATIONAL FAIR IN LUANDA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] The national day of the Soviet Union at the Luanda International Fair-FILDA-84 was observed yesterday in a ceremony presided over by Arnold Kalinin, the ambassador of the USSR accredited in our country.

The ceremony, which was held in the area occupied by the Soviet exhibitors, began with the raising of the flag of the USSR, which was hoisted by the Soviet diplomat. Present were Ismael Martins, Angolan minister of foreign trade, and Roque Tchiendo, vice-president of the Angolan League of Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples of the World.

A visit was later made to the Soviet pavillion, where the visitors had the opportunity to see the two conventional areas into which the stand is divided: one that is devoted to the establishment, development and expansion of Soviet-Angolan relations and to the economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola, and the other, which illustrates the creative work of the Soviet people, their economic achievements and export possibilities.

At the end of the visit, Ismael Martins, who headed the Angolan delegation, accompanied by Tiago da Silva, manager of the fair, signed the book of honor, in which he wrote that the presence of the Soviet Union at the first International Fair of Luanda since the RPA [People's Republic of Angola] had gained its independence, demonstrates and confirms, on the one hand, the great friendship that exists between the two peoples and nations, and, on the other, the potential for the reaffirmation of the bases for cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola.

With regard to the national days of the countries that have exhibits at FICOM-84, the 14th is reserved for Yugoslavia, the 15th and 16th for Cuba, China and Zambia, respectively, while Italy will celebrate its day on the 19th.

According to sources connected with the FICOM fair, 8,000 persons visited its installations on the day of its official opening, while, on the second day, Sunday, an estimated crowd of 6,000 visitors flocked to the site.

SOVIET COOPERATION IN FISHING INDUSTRY

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 13 Nov 84 p 2

/Text/ At Luanda's First International Fair, the USSR Fishing Ministry has a special booth in the Soviet section. In fact, cooperation in the area of fishing is an important part of Angolan-Soviet relations.

Cooperation in the area of fishing between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola /RPA/ has been active since the mid-1970's. In 1976 and 1977, various Soviet organizations provided untied aid to the RPA in the form of a study of the technical and economic aspects of developing this branch of the Angolan economy. The study was used as a basis to formulate the plans to develop this sector.

The USSR is participating in projects outlined in the study, including preservation and the rational exploitation of the biological resources in Angolan waters, and is training Angolans for the country's fish industry. Every year, the Soviet Union grants 20 to 25 scholarships to Angolans to attend specialized advanced and middle schools under the USSR Fishing Ministry. With its assistance, a maritime commerce school was established in Luanda, and it has already trained hundreds of Angolans. This work is also done on board Soviet fishing vessels operating in the RPA's waters.

About 150 Soviet technicians are employed in the fishing sector in the People's Republic of Angola, helping organize and conduct various research projects, train technicians, and operate and repair shops.

The USSR is also helping organize and develop Angolan fishing cooperatives (which currently comprise about 800 persons). The first one, "Kilamba Kiaxi," was started in 1979. That same year the so-called Soviet-Angolan "fishing dispatch" began operating. Under this arrangement, the fish caught is distributed according to the participation and expenses of the parties. The Soviet vessels fish in Angolan water, and deliver part of their catch to the RPA in compensation for their fishing license. These supplies meet about 90 percent of the demand in the capital.

The intergovernmental agreement concluded last January outlines new prospects for bilateral cooperation, including a plan to build, with Soviet assistance, an Angolan complex made up of companies to process fish, a refrigeration unit, an ice factory, a school, a ship repair business, and other structures. There are also plans for the Soviet Union to supply Soviet-made fishing vessels.

There is no doubt that the USSR Fishing Ministry's booth at the First International Fair in Luanda will help further Angolan-Soviet cooperation in the fishing sector. On display there are fish processing equipment, a large number of different nets and other fishing equipment, models of fishing vessels and aquariums, in which visitors can see various species of live fish which may be important for the future of the fish industry in Angola.

9805

CSO: 3442/95

JOINT RED CROSS DELEGATION VISITS MOXICO

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 6 Nov 84 p 3

[Excerpts] A joint delegation of the Red Cross of Angola and the International Red Cross, of which the delegate of the CVA [Red Cross of Angola] to the CICV [International Committee of the Red Cross] and the assistant head of the International Red Cross in Angola, Joao Fialho da Costa and Pierre Conod, respectively, were members, made a 4-day visit to the province of Moxico to make an on-site study of the difficulties which the latter is undergoing.

During their stay in the province of Moxico, the members of the delegation engaged in a series of activities designed to minimize the hardships afflicting the population, which is the victim of the effects of war.

In fact, the aforementioned delegation visited the Central Hospital of Luena, where its members were able to study the difficulties of the institution, namely, the shortage of medicines and the conditions in which the patients, who are war victims, are interned.

The joint delegation included in its program a visit to the camp for displaced persons at Alto Zambeze (Cazombo), which is at present housing 2,714 refugees, where a practical exercise was conducted in the administering of medicine to treat the various ailments in evidence there. Many children, women and old people are suffering from malaria, diarrhea, leprosy and tuberculosis.

A visit was also made to the camp for displaced persons at Sangondo, where populations native to Lumbaia-N'guinbo, Cangumbe and Cangonga are concentrated. The delegation likewise visited the municipality of Leva (60 kilometers from the city of Luena), where they were able to study the areas that may be eligible for assistance from the CVA and the CVI [International Red Cross].

The delegation met twice with the provincial commissioner with whom it discussed the most viable ways in which to furnish direct aid in the various regions to the populations that have been scarred by the effects of war.

8089

CSO: 3442/85

PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY SENDS MESSAGE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Nov 84 p 2

/Text/ On Monday, the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party /PCP/ sent a message of congratulations to the President of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, on the occasion of the anniversary of National Independence, 11 November.

In the message, the PCP Committee reiterated the Portuguese communists' profound friendship for the Angolan people and their revolutionary vanguard, the MPLA-Labor Party, and support for their difficult and heroic struggle to defend the independence and sovereignty of Angola in the face of conspiracies and aggression on the part of imperialists and South African racists.

The message also reaffirms the PCP's solidarity with the Angolan people's struggle to oust from its territory the South African racist troops and its struggle against the criminal activities of UNITA, as well as with Angola's activities to defend and consolidate the historical conquests of the Angolan Revolution and build a new society.

"Today, as in the past, although in vastly different circumstances, our people are struggling for the same objectives of liberation. The PCP will continue to try to develop relations of friendship between the Portuguese and Angolan people and between the Democratic Portuguese nation and the RPA, and to denounce and fight against the policy of Portuguese submission to the aggressive military strategy of imperialism and use of our territory for counterrevolutionary, anti-Angolan activities," the message read.

9805

CSO: 3442/95

NAMIBE'S SALT INDUSTRY IN DIFFICULTY, BPV MEETING

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Nov 84 p 3

/Article by Hortencio Sebastiao/

/Text/ Namibe (from our correspondent). The five salt works belonging to the Empromar Kalahari and Kuroca enterprises, which had been virtually unproductive, have been in the process of renovation since last August, according to what the JORNAL DE ANGOLA learned from sources at the Provincial Office of the Fisheries Ministry.

According to the information we received, this process of restoration is being conducted under a contract with a Portuguese expert, who is training some Namibian workers in the technology so that the various centers will remain operational.

The salt-works at Cabo Negro, Pinda, Rocha, Bentiaba and Boa Vista comprise the group of units being rehabilitated, with a view to increasing salt production in the short run, as current production is low.

The deterioration of Namibe's salt industry is basically attributed to a failure to pay adequate attention to developing this important industry, which led to constant breakdowns of the pumps and deterioration of the mines, and to a shortage of skilled technicians, all of which was aggravated by the heavy rainfalls which flooded the province last year.

In terms of production, up to the third quarter of last year, 1726 tons of salt were produced, while for the same period this year only 678 tons were mined at the five government salt-works.

Regular salt supplies have been ensured primarily by the private Barreiras unit, which produces an average of 600 tons a month, equivalent to the actual installed capacity. It has experienced problems because of a shortage of plastic bags in which the product is distributed. This center is maintaining a stable production rate of 7,000 tons a year.

According to estimates, by the middle of next year, the government salt works will be producing 7,900 kilos of salt, and the year after that they will produce 14,500 tons, and by 1987, 21,000 tons.

It should also be noted that the social conditions of the workers have been improved, and that they have benefited from various pieces of production equipment and a regular supply of foodstuffs.

Assembly of the BPV's

The first Provincial Assembly to Review the People's Vigilante Brigades (BPV's) was recently held in this city, under the chairmanship of Simao Chinana, head of the sector in charge of the BPV's.

The need to have management committees in all the towns in the province and to systematically increase the number of workers joining the ranks of the People's Vigilante Brigades, and especially members of the Party, Party Youth, UNTA /National Union of Angolan Workers/ and OMA /Organization of Angolan Women/, were among the conclusions reached at the meeting which gathered together coordinators of the municipal committees of the MPLA-Labor Party and the DORGAN's /Departments of Organization of the Central Committee/, as well as heads of that organization of the people in districts surrounding the city of Hamibe.

During the assembly, a program of activities for the next year was approved, and the 12 members of the sector's provincial management committee were announced.

With regard to the "Socialist Competition," the results were 50 percent, and four brigade members from the Tchindukuto district distinguished themselves.

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CSO: 3442/86

DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR HARBORS UNDER DISCUSSION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 9 Nov 84 p 1

[Article by L. Agostinho: "Specialists Discuss Operation Strategy of the Ports"]

[Text] In a thesis document prepared by the seminar on the study and development of the ports of Angola, which opened yesterday at the Oncology Center [as published] in Luanda, on the initiative of the National Directorate of the Merchant Marine, the following statement appears: "A port may prove to be a formidable source of obstruction if it is not of a size sufficient for its needs, if its equipment is inadequate, and if the facilities for the circulation and warehousing of freight are designed on the basis of concepts that do not solve the problems involved."

During a 3-day period, specialists in the field of port activity will discuss the place of the ports of Angola in Angolan foreign trade operations, the general development plan for the port of Luanda, modern ideas on the construction of a port, based on the project dealing with containers and Roll-on-Roll-off and, in addition, they will present proposals and conclusions with regard to the future development of the Angolan maritime trade. This seminar, which already has before it a synopsis of the development project involving Angolan ports up to the year 2010, enjoys the collaboration of professors from certain international organizations, namely, Professors M. Schelzel, Pieter Bielvig, J. Lusch and W. Manceke of the ICB [expansion unknown].

The project synopsis that deals with the factors of development and operation that will affect Angolan ports up to the year 2010 is divided into three stages, to wit: that involving reconstruction, which will run from 1985 to 1995 and will embrace the questions of stability, economic influence and the need for transport. The second stage anticipates expansion and will be under development until the 1995/2000 period. The third and last stage, beginning with the year 2005, will ensure exploration for natural resources, the improvement of human resources and an increase in export activity.

Present at the opening work session, which was presided over by Cristovao Domingos Francisco (Colombo), national director of the merchant marine, were representatives of the most varied national and foreign ministries and enterprises. Prominent among the latter were UNECA, Nambisa, Seani-loyd, Hull Blyth, Consulmar, and AT AMI.

FIRST MILITARY COURSE BEGINS AT JIKA SCHOOL

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 6 Nov 84 p 1

/Article by Joaquim Ambriz/

/Text/ A group of boys pledged allegiance to the fatherland at a ceremony which was held in Luanda last Saturday to commemorate the beginning of the first political and military course at the Comandante Jika School and was presided over by Juliao Mateus Paulo (Dino Matross), a member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee's Politburo and state security minister.

The ceremony began with a speech by the director of the school, Capt Mario Lopes Teixeira, outlining the various stages of the history of that military institution which trains political and military officers of various units, regions and branches of the military, in accordance with the guidelines of the party and the Angolan Government.

Captain Teixeira said that the recently sworn cadets, who will be participating in the 3-year political and military program, will be attending courses in mathematics, chemistry, physics, world history, the international workers' movement and history of national liberation, philosophy, economics, the political organization of the RPA /People's Republic of Angola/ and military psychology and instruction. The curriculum will also include courses in general strategy, weapons of destruction and protection against such weapons, military regulations and universal order, for a total of 28 subjects.

The courses, which will be taught by Angolan and Soviet instructors, are part of Angola's general education system and are something new in the history of the achievements of the FAPLA /People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola/. Performance will be evaluated on the basis of the course instructions issued by the Ministry of Education.

As for the ceremony proper, Col Dino Matross added that "the purpose of this program of courses is to give Marxist-Leninist training to officers in the area of defense and security organizations. Completion of this program will mark an important step towards the general training of our political agents...."

The state security minister also told the school's directors to do everything necessary in the area of teaching and administration to ensure the best possible

education. He also exhorted the Angolan instructors to take advantage of the experience of the internationalist teachers, our friends since the beginning of the struggle for national liberation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

During the pledge of allegiance to the flag, when the students stood up and said that "if I violate this commitment, I shall be convicted under the laws of the RPA and all the hate of my nation shall be directed against me," the determination to defend the nation, the party and the revolution was reaffirmed, even though it may be necessary in so doing to spill blood and give one's life in exchange for the freedom and independence of Angola.

Col Dino Matross also said that "the complete training of our men, and especially our guerrillas, has always been a concern of the MPLA Movement, now known as the MPLA-Labor Party.

This is why, he explained, we created the CIR's /expansion unknown/, as a place where our fighters could receive political, military and cultural training. This greatly helped in adopting a battle strategy which led to our victory over the repressive colonial troops. "This is precisely what enabled our courageous fighters to defend our nation and our popular revolution in such a brilliant manner, and to repel the constant attacks of our enemy," he said.

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CSO: 3442/86

BRIEFS

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN BENGUELA--"Approximately 1,620 tons of sugar, the equivalent of 70 percent of the amount anticipated in the plan, is the production figure achieved at the First of May sugar factory in Benguela during the period between June and last September." Such was the statement made by Victor Ribeiro, provincial manager of OSUKA [expansion unknown], during the interview with ANGOP [Angolan News Agency]. According to Victor Ribeiro, the total production plan was for 20,800 tons of sugar, but it was not achieved due to the fact that one of the boilers was damaged. For this reason, only the low-yield boilers, which produce 50 percent less sugar than the damaged one, are operative. In addition to this, the enterprise has been faced by other difficulties due to the shortage of man power. The Fourth of February sugar factory produced only 69 percent of the 20.57 [as published] tons anticipated in the plan. The disrepair of the factory was the cause of the low production figure. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Nov 84 p 2] 8089

PRICES DISTURB ZAIRE FARMERS--Between January and October of this year, 350 tons of various products with a value of about 7 million kwanzas were purchased from the farmers of the province of Zaire by the Agricultural Products Marketing and Distribution Company. According to sources contacted by ANGOP [Angolan News Agency], this figure is higher than that recorded during the entire year of 1983, but could go even higher if the aforementioned firm had sufficient means of transport at its disposal (it owns only 2 operational 5-ton vehicles) and if it received a larger supply of industrial goods. To illustrate the situation, Garcia Figueiredo, manager of the firm, stressed the fact that during the past few months approximately 100 tons of oranges could not be picked up in the rural areas and, as a result, the fruit was spoiled. The company officer emphasized that the municipalities of Soyo, Noqui and Cuimba have achieved the best results and he reported that 80 percent of the industrial goods received this year went to the farmers, but that they are, nonetheless, unhappy with the prices, that have gone up year after year, when the prices of their own products have always remained the same. According to Garcia Figueiredo, although 2 years have passed, the firm does not yet have a fund earmarked for the purchase of products from the farmers, but uses, for the purpose, credits with the Banco Nacional de Angola, repayable within 90 days, which payment has often been impossible. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 8 Nov 84 p 3]

SHOA PROVINCES GEAR TO OVERCOME DROUGHT

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 5

[Text] AKAKI (ENA)--To withstand the problem of food shortage caused by drought, harnessing rivers and growing vegetables both in rural areas and towns are underway in large scale in all of the 11 provinces of Shoa region.

This was disclosed by the first secretaries of WPE committees of the 11 provinces in the region at a meeting held in Akaki town after reviewing the activities being done in the provinces to make practical the directives given by the Politbureau of the CC of WPE in order to withstand the drought problem.

The first secretaries said that besides harnessing rivers for irrigation purpose, digging of ponds, renewing of springs and preparation of fodder for cattle is being widely carried out in the region. They said that maintenance of tractors that were out of service for long is also underway in line with the directives given by the Natural Disaster Relief Committee of the region.

Speaking at the opening and closing of the meeting, Comrade Debela Dinsa, member of the CC of WPE and First Secretary of Shoa region and Chairman of the regional Natural Disaster Relief Committee, said that the efforts being made in the region to increase production has to be continued as the region has the largest pool of skilled manpower as well as a better means of communication.

He said that besides the efforts being made to tackle food shortage and save the life of the people, food production has to increase by way of harnessing rivers for irrigation purposes to satisfy local food consumption and produce enough for the world market to get foreign currency.

In the day-long meeting, chaired by Comrade Solomon Gebre, member of the CC of WPE and Head of the Ideological Affairs Department of Shoa region WPE Committee office, discussed the causes of drought, measures taken so far and remedial suggestions, the objective of the settlement programme and related issues.

The participants of the meeting later visited the 44,000 square metres of farm land being developed by irrigation by workers of Akaki Textile Factory and potato farm on half acre of land being carried out by residents of Akaki town.

Meanwhile, peasants in the nine districts constituting Jibat-Metcha province, Shoa region, are hard at work harnessing rivers in the area for agricultural development.

Thirty-three of the 72 rivers in the province suitable for irrigation have been already diverted for cultivation in seven peasant association holdings and two towns.

In the provincial capital of Ambo itself, the six kebeles constituting the towns have joined forces in diverting two nearby rivers for cultivating collectively operated vegetable plots.

Farther afield in Debre Tabor province of Gondar region, the regular and prison and finance police have pooled efforts to harness the Kega River for a similar purpose.

This has enabled the peasants in the area to cultivate four hectares of hitherto idle land. The initiative was taken in consideration of the effect of drought on the farming population.

The same police group was undertaken to tap the waters of the Wollo river for bringing another three hectares of land under cultivation.

The idea of harnessing rivers for irrigation purposes became popular as the drought situation became progressive worse and as vast tracts of land became uncultivable due to shortage of water. The practice is now familiar in most parts of the country.

CSO: 3400/359

HIGH-LEVEL TEAM INSPECTS RESETTLEMENT DRIVE

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIA HERALD in English 2 Dec 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] ASSOSSA (ENA)--The high-level team led by Comrade Legesse Asfaw, member of the Politbureau, secretary of the CC of WPE and Coordinator of the Resettlement Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Friday inspected the resettlement scheme in Assossa province of Wollega region which is being carried out in line with the Revolutionary Government's action programme for drought victims.

The high-level team was briefed at the resettlement sight by a surveying unit consisting of experts from the Mapping Agency, the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. Comrade Legesse urged the surveying unit to live up to the heavy responsibility entrusted to it and also gave directives so as to expedite the survey work and make the necessary preparation for cultivating farmland allotted to the resettlement "amba".

The high-level team was welcomed at the Assossa district resettlement "amba" by Comrade Dejene Retta, First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Assossa province, who briefed the team on the activities at the "amba."

The team inspected the resettlement area where compatriots brought from drought-prone areas were being cared for in relief shelters and others who have moved from shelters to houses they had built for themselves and started a new life. Those in the relief shelters and the rest who have moved into their own houses told Comrade Legesse that they were very happy to have come to the resettlement "amba" and are content with the food, medicine and other relief aid they are given by the government.

The high-level team also visited farmers who settled in Assossa province six years ago. Comrade Legesse praised the farmers from the encouraging results they had made in boosting productivity in the past few years and advised them to use irrigation to redouble their production.

The high-level team also inspected a group of 81 youth farmers, drawn from among farmers who resettled in Assossa six years ago, being trained to help organize newly arriving settlers.

Comrade Legesse addressed the youth urging them to follow their training diligently. He noted that the immense efforts made in the past by the Revolutionary Government had enabled compatriots from Wollo resettled in Assossa to become productive citizens instead of remaining dependents on relief aid. He said that as they have been selected to serve as teachers, they should realize the importance of the task awaiting them in politicizing and organizing the new group of settlers.

Members of the high-level team present during the working tour include Comrade Teka Tulu, alternate member of the Politbureau, Secretary of the CC of WPE, Chairman of the Central Audit Commission and representative of the Control and Inspection Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Comrade Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, member of the CC of WPE, Minister of Information and National Guidance and representative of the Propaganda and Agitation Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Comrade Tesfaye Maru, member of the CC of WPE, Minister of Urban Development and Housing and representative of the Construction Unit of the National Committee for Drought Relief, Comrade Bega-shaw Atalay, member of the CC of WPE, First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Kaffa region and Chairman of the Drought Relief Committee for South-Western Zone, Comrade Negussie Fanta, member of the CC of WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Wollega region, other members of the CC of WPE, commissioners and representatives of mass organizations.

Meanwhile, in Nekempte, Comrade Legesse Asfaw said yesterday that party members, government and mass organizations should be actively involved in implementing the government's programme for coping with the drought challenge.

Comrade Legesse made the observation after touring rehabilitation and resettlement activities in Assossa province, Wollega region.

Addressing a meeting at the regional WPE Committee office in Nekempte, Comrade Legesse directed that the rehabilitation and resettlement programme in the region should be strengthened and that adequate provisions should be made in such areas as transport and health as well as in erecting temporary shelters and permanent villages.

Comrade Legesse noted that the all-round effort being made to save the lives of our compatriots and make them self-supporting is encouraging. Comrade Legesse reminded new settlers to make best use of the farm equipment with which they are provided by the government and said that under the leadership of the party and the government the day will not be far too long before we not only crush reactionaries but also control nature.

The settlers on their part pledged to be self-supporting shortly with the assistance given them by the Revolutionary Government.

Present during the visit were Comrade Teka Tulu, Comrade Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Comrade Tesfaye Maru, and other officials representing Kaffa, Wollega and Illubabor regions.

SEED PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION CENTER INAUGURATED IN NEKEMPTÉ

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 27 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] NEKEMPTÉ (ENA)--The seed processing and distribution centre built at a cost of 3.4 million birr by the Ethiopian Seeds Corporation was inaugurated here over the weekend.

The centre which is the first of its kind, winnows and prepares 40 quintals an hour at present and is providing service to state farms and peasants in Wollega and neighbouring regions.

The centre with a capacity of 30,000 quintals has two stores and one sophisticated winnowing and preparing mill.

A cornerstone for the construction of the maintenance workshop for the western zone at a cost of one million birr was also laid during the inaugural ceremony.

Speaking after inaugurating the centre and laying the cornerstone for the workshop, Comrade Nigussie Fanta, member of the CC of WPE and First Secretary of the WPE Committee for Wollega region, noted that the workshop besides providing job opportunities while at the same time contribute towards producing a skilled manpower in the area.

The seed processing and distribution centre, Comrade Nigussie noted will contribute towards combating the current drought problem by distributing selected seeds to producers' co-operatives. He urged the Ethiopian Seeds Corporation to do its best and provide better services to conquer famine.

Comrade Hambissa Wakoya, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of State Farms Development, said on his part that the maintenance workshop offers dependable services to garages serving settlement centres and peasants' associations and will also provide the needed material and technical base for the agricultural sector of the economy.

Present at the inaugural ceremony were members of the CC of WPE, members of the Wollega regional WPE Committee, the regional First Deputy Administrator, the Deputy Administrator, managers under the Ministry of State Farms Development and representatives of government agencies and mass organizations in Wollega region.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN TRAINING ACCORD--An agreement was signed here yesterday between Revolutionary Ethiopia and the Peoples' Republic of Bulgaria to give on the job training to 500 Ethiopian youth members. The agreement was signed at the auditorium of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs by Comrade Yemane Araya, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and by Comrade Stefan Dossez, alternate member of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party and First Deputy Chairman of the country's Labour and Social Affairs Committee. Those youth members who will take on the job training in Bulgaria are those who have passed the Ethiopian School Living Certificate Examination and aged between 18 and 26. The agreement is for a period of five years as of 1985. The training will enable the youth to have more experience in different professions in line with the man-power need of the country. The number of trainees will grow upto 2,000 in the future in accordance with the agreement to be concluded by the two countries. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 pp 1, 3]

AMBO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH--AMBO (ENA)--Dr. Anilimov Boris, Director of the Ambo Agricultural Research Centre, said here Wednesday that there is plan to distribute various selected seeds among the peasants of Jibat-Metcha province after reproducing them on the farms of two peasant producers' cooperatives in the area. The director said that satisfactory results have been achieved in preventing crop diseases, pests and weeds. Dr. Boris told reporters that the Research Centre has tried its best to acquaint the peasants with modern agricultural implements in order to help vastly produce different crops. The seeds tested were of wheat, maize and potato. Wheat and maize, although in great demand, are in short supply, according to Dr. Boris. He said the resultant scarcity has brought hardship on the people which should be tackled through improved agricultural practices. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 30 Nov 84 pp 1, 4]

TERRITORIAL MILITIA GRADUATE--DEKEMEhari (ENA)--A group of territorial militia drawn from six provinces of Eritrea region completed a two-month course in military and ideological training and graduated here Thursday. Arms to the graduating batch and special prizes of outstanding members were handed over by Comrade Yisehaq Tsegaye, Deputy Administrator of Eritrea region. Comrade Yisehaq noted on the occasion that in line with the nation's principles of building a dependable defence force, considerable number of peasants have been trained in military science and are deployed in clearing their areas from

secessionist elements. Comrade Yisehaq urged the graduates to expose the scurrilous propaganda of the bandits and to wipe out remnants of the gangs from the area where they cause mass deprivation. Comrade Col. Admassu Mekonnen, head of the training centre, earlier spoke of the nature of the training and of the high vigilance of the graduates. Representatives of the graduating batch expressed readiness on behalf of their colleagues to live up to their task. Present at the graduation ceremony were the Administrator of the Hamassien province and representatives of government and mass organizations. [Text] [Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 1 Dec 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/359

LAX AIRPORT CLEARANCE MEASURES JEOPARDIZE NATIONAL SECURITY

Accra GHANAIAIAN TIMES in English 22 Oct 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Checking At Airport"]

[Text] THOSE in charge of Accra airport security are justified to ignore all the protests against the checking systems which they have adopted to ensure compliance with Customs and Immigration regulations. They have every reason to adopt even stiffer measures at the airport. We, indeed, urge them to reject some of the supposed protocol practices at the airport which have clearly proved to be against the national interest. Some of these so-called protocol practices make it difficult for the airport security personnel to carry out their tasks effectively. Moreover, these practices give privileges to some travellers which are never allowed in other countries.

Ten days ago, an international flight from Europe arrived at the airport at eight o'clock in the evening. As the plane came to a stop, as many as about forty members of the public surged forward to the very foot of the gangway to welcome their friends and relatives who arrived on the flight. Most of these people Ghanaians and foreigners, simply took the hand luggage of their friends and relatives among the passengers and walked with them into the airport building. The airport security officials tried to check this illegal infiltration of non-passengers, but they could not do much about it partly because they had many arrivals to see through, the normal formalities, and because some of the infiltrators, mostly 'big men', had one arrogant excuse or another to give for being there.

Three of the infiltrators carrying the luggage of two arriving whitemen would allow neither the luggage nor the two arrivals to be checked at all, shouting "they are UN officials." The airport personnel obviously did not like it, but it seemed that they were helpless.

There are normally three categories of passengers arriving at the airport. One--Heads of State and others of similar status arrive at the airport and go straight to the diplomatic lounge and are received by the host. Two--Ministers and the like arrive and are usually received at the VIP lounge. In both cases, selected protocol officials may meet them at the foot of the gangway and take care of their required check-in and check-out formalities. Three--all other passengers arrive and go straight into the airport building to go through the formalities on their own.

Travellers

Everywhere else, ordinary travellers are met by friends and relatives only after they have gone through all formalities and emerge with their things from the baggage room. Right from the aeroplane, to the tarmac and through the airport building, no one is allowed to mix with passengers. What we see at Accra airport of people, including foreign residents, going right up to the aeroplane to take passengers' hand luggage and walking with them through the formalities is unacceptable, for many obvious reasons.

Such practices lend themselves to various abuses, and can be dangerous for national security and economic reasons. That is how illegal currency exportation is made; that is how gold and diamonds are illegally taken out of the country and that is how arrivals bring foreign currencies with them, hand them over to their friends and walk through the formalities without declaring anything.

No traveller has the right to be given privileges at the airport which offer him the chance to leave the country or enter it without going through the required processes. We urge the airport security authorities to put their foot down and apply the rule on everyone, including those who arrogantly use their positions even to enter aeroplanes to hand over parcels to their smuggling accomplices.

CSO: 3400/351

TUC'S STAND AGAINST PNDC'S ECONOMIC POLICY CRITICIZED

Accra GHANAIAAN TIMES in English 2, 3 Nov 84

[Editorial: "Unhelpful Resolutions"]

[2 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] AT the end of September, the Tema District Council of Labour of the TUC came out with a resolution on the economic situation in the country. On 24th October, the National Executive Board of the TUC came out with another resolution on the same subject. The theme of both resolutions was the same--a violent denunciation of the Government's economic policy, on the assorted grounds that it is unworkable, a "sell-out to international imperialist monetary agents"; the cause of intolerable hardship to the working people; the instrument of increasing class conflicts in the society, etc; followed by a number of cautions and demands. Both resolutions are full of half-truths and untruths which, however convincing they may seem to the gullible and uninformed, reveal a lack of both logic and honesty on the part of some of the labour leaders.

The list of things which the TUC leaders say that the working people of this country want and do not want are so unrealistic that we do not think that the writers of the resolutions seriously believe what they have written. We credit them with more common-sense. But in doing so, we must conclude that, for reasons of their own, they hope to convince their more naive rank and file that it is, as they say, possible to have your cake AND eat it.

For the benefit of our readers, we list below the major demands set out in these resolutions. What the TUC WANTS are: subsidies on goods and services; more and better social services; encouragement of the State-owned sector; more imports for essential services; more jobs; better housing; more funds allocated to education; distribution of goods through workers' co-operatives.

What the TUC DOESN'T WANT are: price increases; lay-offs; restraints on wage increases; any more loans from the IMF and World Bank; any further adjustment of the cedi to its actual value; export promotion at the expense of local industry; the Prices and Incomes Board and all its works.

Representatives

And to make sure that they get what they want and get rid of what they don't want, they indicate that they DO want their own nominated representatives on the PNDC and all other government organs, and they do NOT want Dr Kwesi Botchway and his Economic Development Programme.

To any thinking person, this catalogue of likes and dislikes sounds rather like that of a child who says he wants new clothes, toffee, money for the cinema, chicken and cake for dinner, but he does NOT want to do his maths homework, sweep his room, work on the farm, or run errands for his mother. It would, of course, be pleasant to be able to go on thinking in this way as adults, getting the good things of life and avoiding the less attractive ones. But we learn, as we grow, that everything, sooner or later, has to be paid for, whether in terms of money, effort or self-discipline.

It is not possible in the space available to analyze all the points in these TUC resolutions; but let us make a start with just ONE. They disagree with the Government's efforts to rehabilitate the export sector of the economy on various ground. These include the argument that the money going into mining, timber, cocoa, et cetera, could better go into industries which supply the local market, and also the argument that the foreign exchange will be used to service debts. They actually say that the PNDC has "submitted" to the "dictates" of the IMF and the World Bank to adopt an "export strategy of development IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO SERVICE DEBTS"!

Any responsible person knows that debts have to be paid--or do they expect some Father Christmas to dole out money from somewhere? Or do they think it possible to revive the economy WITHOUT rehabilitating industries, whether export orientated or not? Since we do not have the funds for this investment, we must borrow--not for the pleasure of paying it back, but in order to use the money as a tool for WORK, in order to EARN enough to pay all our rebts, rehabilitate all the other sectors of the economy which have not yet had their share, and provide all those good things which they are so anxious to have. But it has to be in that order; we cannot have the goodies before we have earned them.

It is evident that the Government would like nothing better than to spend more on education, to guarantee high prices for farmers, and then subsidize the food so that urban workers can buy it cheaply, to create more jobs, improved social services, and all these other nice things. The TUC may think it possible to do this without earning the means to pay for it, and without creating an economy which can SUSTAIN these payments. They may try to persuade students and farmers that this is possible. But logic dictates that this is wishful thinking.

[3 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] ONE thing should be emphasized: If a method adopted for a long time has failed to achieve the desired results, then there is something wrong with that method--either it is inherently wrong or it is irrelevant to the

situation and therefore unrealistic. This is the message which we have tried from the very beginning of the Revolution to press home to leaders of the country's labour movement.

The inclination to say something from time to time just to show that they are supporting the interest of workers is the labour leader's traditional practice, but it has never produced real results because the practice has demonstrated two basic weaknesses. In the first place, the practice bears the marks of an unfair attempt by those involved to maintain their credibility in the eyes of workers. This is clear from the fact that it is usually when the going is tough and the sharing of responsibility stares everyone in the face that the practice is indulged in to shift blame. In the second place, the practice fails to show a faithful recognition of the real problems, and is often devoid of proof of what the labour leaders have done in fulfilment of their part of the responsibilities in the interest of workers.

To avoid irrelevance, it has been pointed out that with the changing situation brought about by the revolutionary process, the old way of looking at the responsibility of the TUC by its leaders is no more tenable. For, whilst in the oppressive old days the workers as organized labour had a lot of reasons to see the Government apart as a group of self-seekers, the revolutionary situation is one in which workers have got the opportunities of effective participation in the things that directly affect their interests, therefore the sharing of responsibility demands from the labour leaders rather self-examination and self-criticism instead of finding fault with others.

This is why after the national economic recovery programme was published, the challenge was thrown to whoever found fault with it to state the reasons and provide details of what alternatives should be taken--because just saying it was bad would not help the nation. So far as we are aware, no one brought any alternatives with a working plan to prove its superior efficacy. So with the hope that the programme will succeed, and with evident concern for the interests of the people, the Government has proceeded with carrying out the programme, having to battle with difficulties along the way--foreseen difficulties which the Government did everything to get the nation prepared to face.

With this background, the resolutions coming from TUC quarters highlighting problems and making demands are not news to anyone. What will be news should be an account from the TUC itself of the steps it has taken so far and the achievements it has made in fulfilment of its part of the bargain. The TUC was reminded, for example, that the workers' dues which it receives every month can go a long way in providing immediate relief for workers in various ways. We even went so far as to ask for an account to workers of the monthly dues so that workers would be in a position to propose how some of the money can be used on the things they want.

Workers of many organizations have been trying to find the means of catering for their interests, such as running their canteens effectively. Money from their dues could, for instance, be used in assisting some of these organizations to make vegetable farms to feed their canteens, and so forth. These kinds of service to workers are some of the responsibilities which the TUC bears in the recovery programme.

The distribution of commodities to workplaces is still in practice, and many workers find it difficult to contribute money as deposit for their allocations. The TUC could use funds from its dues as loan deposits for the workers to collect their allocation as and when necessary. Has this been done?

And so the TUC resolutions should be critically examined by workers.

CSO: 3400/351

EEC COMMISSIONER VISIT AUGURS GOOD PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] At the end of the 24-hour visit paid to our country, the commissioner of development from the European Economic Community, Edgar Pisani, claimed that there are good prospects for cooperation between Guinea-Bissau and the EEC, in connection with the forthcoming Lome Convention, which will be signed this month in the Togolese capital.

During his brief stay in Guinea-Bissau, he was received by President Nino Vieira, held talks with ministers from the economic sector and visited the town of Bafata.

Yesterday, in Bissau, the European Economic Community's commissioner for development, Mr Edgar Pisani, remarked that the economic guidelines currently being followed by our country's government are very close to what EEC has in mind.

At the conclusion of the 24-hour visit to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Mr Pisani also remarked that, for this reason, the dialogue which is being opened and which will open on the occasion of the coming Lome Convention, on cooperation between our country and the EEC, will be relatively easy.

This EEC official was received in an audience by the president of the Council of State, Joao Bernardo Vieira, held talks with members of the Guinean Government associated with the economic area and visited the Bafata region, where he had an opportunity to observe some projects financed by this European agency, namely, the cotton processing factory and the construction on the Bambadinca-Bafata bridge.

With regard to the talks held in Bissau, Pisani said that a discussion was held on possible technical assistance from the EEC to the Bissau government, "which is currently seeking a solution to its monetary problem."

The EEC commissioner for development commented: "Guinea-Bissau is completely isolated from other countries and, in this respect, has commercial problems resulting from a currency that is not convertible. Hence, we have observed the

need for sending a mission of Guinean experts to the EEC as promptly as possible, not so that we may suggest a solution to the government, but rather to enable us to put forth diagnoses for this situation. We think that its solution does not concern Guinea-Bissau alone, but the neighboring countries as well; all of which are located in the same region and hence are concerned about solving the problem."

He also noted that the franc plays a major role in this area. In addition, there are countries covered by the dollar, "which does not benefit regional development, but on the contrary makes it more complicated."

He also discussed with the Guinean authorities problems associated with the development of commerce and agriculture, two areas which, in his view, are closely interconnected.

Upon his departure, Pisani remarked: "We also place a great deal of stress in the fishing agreement on exports of Guinea's fishing resources to the EEC countries. Meanwhile, we are willing to assist beyond what has been stipulated in that agreement; because we are also attempting to develop fishing as an occupation on the domestic level."

2909

CSO: 3442/112

PORTUGAL'S GASPAR DA SILVA HAILS COOPERATION

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 5

[Text] The cooperation between Guinea-Bissau and Portugal will gain new breadth and dynamism, according to the claim of observers in the area. This assertion became eloquent following the visit paid to Guinea-Bissau by the Portuguese state secretary of cooperation, Mr Gaspar da Silva, who, upon his arrival in Lisbon on Monday, urged Portuguese businessmen to invest in the country.

According to the Portuguese state secretary of cooperation, the investment code in Guinea-Bissau "provides for the start of any undertaking. In fact, there are conditions in the country for making good sized and well planned projects profitable, enabling Portuguese businessmen to enter the international trading systems."

Moreover, Gaspar da Silva stressed that, with Guinea-Bissau's agricultural potential, the Portuguese investment could dynamize the reunion of Portugal and Guinea-Bissau.

The Portuguese cooperation is aimed at making 1985 the year of socio-cultural cooperation with Guinea-Bissau. Within the context of this cooperation, a Portuguese educational project is due to start in mid-December in the country, wherein the participation of the Portuguese Ministry of Education is essential for its execution. The program for instruction in the Portuguese language will begin with courses in Portuguese at the cultural center in Bissau, where Portuguese films will also be shown.

2909

CSO: 3442/113

FISHERIES SECRETARY DISCUSSES PROJECTS AFTER EUROPEAN TRIP

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 5

[Text] On Wednesday morning, Comrade Luis Sanca, state secretary of fisheries, returned to the country after a working visit which he paid to European countries, namely, Portugal, France and Belgium.

Comrade Sanca told NO PINTCHA: "The results accrued were satisfactory, since in Portugal, the first stop on the trip, we obtained approval for the project for construction of the building for the State Secretariat of Fisheries headquarters in Bissau, at a cost of 70,000 contos."

He had previously remarked that, in the context of cooperation and mastery of scientific research, "We requested support for setting up a marine biology laboratory, and the director of the Portuguese National Research Institute guaranteed that backing, providing the list of items required to create the laboratory. They are willing to furnish grants for internships for the personnel who will be working in the aforementioned laboratory.

"Guinea-Bissau also proposed that the future institute of Guinea-Bissau be made a partner of the Portuguese Institute of Fishing, and a protocol is soon to be concluded that will afford a direct exchange of information between the scientists of both countries.

"Our delegation in that European country was received by the minister of maritime affairs, who has the Secretariat of Fishing under his jurisdiction, and by the state secretary of cooperation, on behalf of the minister of foreign affairs, who was away.

"In France, the second leg of the visit, where the purpose thereof was to examine the method for cooperation in the fishing area, particularly the Semapesca project, it was decided to reduce the capacity of the cold storage chamber, which had been 1,000 tons, to 50, this being a temporary reduction because the previous capacity exceeded the fuel supplies.

"As for the shrimp fishing project, the volume of the catch will rise, with a maximum of 500 traps, so as to attain a production of 240 tons per year.

"It is also planned to install a refrigerator vessel on the Cacheu River, to back the shrimp fishing.

"Meanwhile, it was also decided that the management of the small-scale occupational fishing would be carried out from Bissau, and the shrimp fishing project will have autonomy in its management, with regard to the technical and financial aspects; with the management of the operation in our capital as well, something that had been done in France at another time."

According to Comrade Sanca, a bank account to be used only for operations relating to the shrimp project will be opened in Ziguinchor.

With regard to the fishing activities, that member of the government claimed that the French Government has agreed to gradually reduce the activity for the fishing project in view of the cut in the cold storage capacity, and to help the State Secretariat of Fisheries to maintain the facilities of the Semapesca enterprise.

Moreover, Comrade Sanca added: "The French Government will later examine Guinea-Bissau's proposal for the installation of a refrigerator ship, with the backing of canoes."

As for the method of financing, he said: We requested a rescaling of the debts contracted with Semapesca over a minimal term of 4 years without interest, and a rate for the latter reduced to 4 percent, extending the term of its payment to 20 years."

It was also decided to grant a subsidy from the Cooperation Assistance Fund (FAC) in the amount of 1.2 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs; and note was taken of the need to mobilize efforts between our government and the French Government to start up Semapesca again.

The subject of our interview said: "We have the participation of private French entities which will contribute a million French francs to the fund for handling the shrimp fishing project."

As for technical assistance, the economic cooperation services, CCCE (Central Fund for Economic Cooperation), will explore the possibility of covering the cost of the chief of the shrimp project and his assistant.

Furthermore, the French partners are seeking more viable means of reducing the Guinean expenditures for French technicians rendering service at Semapesca.

However, the Guinean Government is studying the problem for the purpose of cutting fuel costs in the fishing sector.

During his stay in Brussels (Belgium), the final stop on his tour, Comrade Luis Sanca was the bearer of a personal message from President Nino Vieira to the Belgian prime minister, regarding economic problems in connection with the bilateral cooperation.

The aforementioned message was delivered to the Belgian state secretary for cooperation, and Comrade Sanca explained to the member of that country's government that "Guinea-Bissau attaches great importance to the bilateral cooperation with Belgium, through the non-governmental organizations which are currently financing certain projects at a cost of approximately 20 million Belgian francs."

The subject of our interview remarked: "The Belgian state secretary for cooperation was very understanding, claiming that all the projects which are currently under way would continue."

The fishing delegation from Guinea-Bissau, represented by its state secretary of fisheries, was received in Brussels by the general director of political affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Relations and by its secretary general, on behalf of the minister of foreign affairs of the European Economic Community (EEC); and the topic of their conversation involved the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

2909

CSO: 3442/113

BRIEFS

BRIDGE REPAIRED--The bridge connecting the Cure and Caboxanque sections, which had been in bad condition for 2 years, was repaired on 24 November by the population of the Bedanda sector. The repair of this bridge made it possible for the area's residents to emerge from the enormous isolation to which they had been subjected. Attending this work were several heads of rank and file committees and residents of the two sections. The participants decided to work in the future in order to solve certain problems of the same type. Meanwhile, Comrade Paulo Coelho, a technician specializing in cooperatives who is assisting in the creation of a fruit growers' association, has been in the Caboxanque section since 23 November, to discuss with the sectorial entities and the directors of the Experimental Agricultural Production Department (DEPA) the possibilities of transporting the fruit from the countryside to the urban area. This visit followed the recent visit paid to the Tombali region by the minister of planning and international cooperation, Comrade Bartolomeu Simoes Pereira, who analyzed with the peasants matters associated with fruit transportation. Comrade Carlos Silva (Pepito), director of DEPA, was a member of the delegation. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 4 Dec 84 p 2] 2909

NEW PORT PLANS--It was learned at the latest meeting of the regional planning office in the Tombali region, held on 23 November, that the construction work on the new port of Imbo, in the Catio sector, will begin next year. The port project, estimated at costing \$5 million, includes the construction of a port 600 meters wide by 100 meters long, provided with infrastructure capable of taking a large amount of cargo, as well as the construction of large warehouses. The meeting was chaired by the vice chairman of the State Committee, Comrade Carlos Silva, the representative from the Netherlands, a financing committee member, and gave an explanation of the types of work that would be carried out. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 2] 2909

GDR SOLIDARITY DONATION--The PAIGC Central Committee received (as a donation) a supply of blankets for adults and children given by the Solidarity Committee of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), during a ceremony held on 27 November in the party's reception room. The delivery was made by the GDR ambassador accredited to the country, Comrade Manfred Seferth, in the presence of Comrades Francisco Silva and Benicio Costa who are, respectively, a member of the PAIGC Central Committee and party secretary for international relations, attached to the aforementioned party institution's administration and finance office.

At this function , Comrade Francisco Silva expressed his gratification and thanks for the donation given by that German Solidarity Committee, stressing that this gesture "symbolizes another step in the intensification of the relations which have always existed, since the difficult times of our national liberation struggle." The ambassador from the German Democratic Republic, in turn, speaking on behalf of his party and the aforementioned Solidarity Committee, commented that the delivery of that donation represents, once again, "a bond of friendship aimed at reinforcing further still the cooperation between our two states." [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 3] 2909

PORTUGUESE MILITARY DELEGATION--A Portuguese military delegation, headed by the brigadier aviation pilot, Artur Misquita, has been in Bissau since Monday to establish contacts with the Guinean Armed Forces in connection with the cooperation between Portugal and Guinea-Bissau. In this same context, there are plans to train Guinean military cadres in the fields of administration, accounting and physical education. Also in the area of the contacts, military cadres will be trained in the fields of health, military justice and hydrography, and a military band will be formed. In statements made to the Portuguese News Agency (ANOP), the Portuguese general officer said that there is an attempt "to reactivate the contacts" between the two Armed Forces, and that this visit to the Guinean capital was considered quite timely as a means of "heightening the relations between the two sides." Also serving on the Portuguese military mission were Infantry Col Jose Bento Guimaraes Figueiral, aviator pilot Col Guilherme Pinto da Costa Santos, Infantry Maj Jose Francisco Reis dos Santos, Lt Capt Eurico Ferreira de Carvalho and personnel services Capt Victor Resa Gama. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 1 Dec 84 p 5] 2909

CSO: 3442/113

IVORY COAST

AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS UNDER WAY WITH GERMAN AID

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT in German
26 Nov 84 p 2

[Article by W. An.: "Higher Agricultural Prices in World Markets Help Ivory Coast; Several Agricultural and Industrial Projects Established with German Aid"]

[Text] Primarily as a result of inadequate world market prices for her agricultural products and because of persistent periods of drought, the Ivory Coast had slid into an economic crisis in 1980/81, a crisis that could only be overcome through debt rescheduling and assistance from international organizations. However, there are now once again signs of economic recovery, due above all to good coffee and cocoa harvests at higher world-market prices. Better results could also be obtained for cotton, rubber and palm oil products. The production of sugar, on the other hand, had to be curtailed. Diversification of the agricultural base continues; in addition, the export of tropical timber has increased. Petroleum exploitation has not yet yielded the expected results. The Federal Republic of Germany, like other nations, is providing significant development aid.

Because of recent adequate and regular rainfalls, the Ivory Coast, the world's number one cocoa producer, expects a record crop for 1984/85 of about 450,000-500,000 tons of cocoa. In 1983/84, cocoa production came to 365,000 tons. Since world-market prices rose for both cocoa and coffee, the government was able to hike the producer price of one kilogram of cocoabeans from 350 francs CFA (100 francs CFA equals about DM 0.65) to 375 francs CFA, and of one kilo of coffeebeans from 150 francs CFA to 190 francs CFA.

In 1983, the Ivory Coast expanded her exports to 821.7 billion francs CFA, compared to 755.6 billion francs CFA a year earlier. Imports were cut from 745.6 billion francs CFA in 1982 to 735.7 billion francs CFA. The share of cocoa exports in 1983 (1982) was 206.1 (202.9) billion francs CFA, although the export volume fell from 386,900, in 1982, to 345,000 tons. Coffee exports as well brought higher export earnings. They totaled in 1983 (1982) 159.6 (142.3) billion francs CFA, with total sales of 223,600 (273,100) tons. Thanks to a better cotton harvest, the export of cotton and cotton products climbed to 59,500 (46,500) tons in 1983 (1982) and yielded earnings of 47.2 (32.8) billion francs CFA. In the case of vegetable

oils and fats, the value of exports increased, in 1983 (1982), to 19.2 (14.8) billion francs CFA, although the export volume shrank by 90,300 (93,600) tons. As for rubber, both the export earnings and export volume went up. Earnings in 1983 (1982) amounted to 11.2 (7.3) billion francs CFA, and the volume was 29,700 (28,800) tons. The export of tropical timber developed well. In 1983 (1982), 2.1 (2.0) million tons, at a value of 111.3 (97.8) billion francs CFA were exported. The export of 24,000 tons of canned tunafish produced 20.0 billion francs CFA worth of foreign exchange in 1983.

The Ivory Coast has been a petroleum producing country since 1980 when the Societe Ivoirienne d'Operations Petrolieres (Siop) started production in the small offshore field of Belier. Subsequently, production also started in the Espoir field. In 1983, production totaled only 1.1 million tons although a production of 1.5 million tons had been expected. In 1982, it totaled 650,000 tons. In 1983, an additional 1.06 million tons of petroleum had to be imported, compared to 1.43 million tons a year earlier. Yet in 1983 (1982), the Ivory Coast also exported 0.18 (0.24) million tons of crude oil, 0.18 (0.14) million tons of diesel oil, 0.18 (0.41) million tons of heavy oil, and 0.41 (0.39) million tons of other mineral oil products.

The crude oil refinery operated by the Societe Ivoirienne de Raffinage (SIR) at Vridi near Abidjan was expanded in two stages by the end of 1983. The first expansion phase was completed at yearend 1982 by the French company Heurtey Industries, Paris, which essentially supplied and installed a distilling plant, a catalytic reforming plant and a desulfurization plant. The American Fluor Corporation, Los Angeles, set up a hydrocracker during the second phase as well as a dock for tankers with a load-bearing capacity of up to 250,000 tons. Total costs of the expansion investment, which doubled the annual throughput capacity from 2 to 4 billion tons of petroleum, ran to about 150 billion francs CFA.

The prolonged period of drought at the Ivory Coast led to difficulties in the supply of electrical power which depends primarily on hydroelectric power stations at river dams. Thus, considerable cuts had to be made in power production, and both industry and private households were suffering from power shortages. To overcome these shortages, the Societe Energie Electrique de la Cote d'Ivoire (EECI), in Abidjan, which is responsible for the country's power supply, installed at Vridi four gas turbines (25 megawatt each). The supplier was the French firm Alsthom Atlantique, Paris. The so far most important hydroelectric power project of the Ivory Coast, the construction of a dam with an electric power station (four groups of turbo generators with 82 megawatts each) near Soubre at the river Sassandra, has been postponed indefinitely. Important natural gas deposits have been discovered offshore, which could be used to supply energy in the future.

In agriculture, special emphasis is given to promoting the planting of palm oil and rubber trees. In December 1983, the European Development Fund contributed

10.3 million accounting units (1 accounting unit equals about DM 2.24) for the expansion and replanting of oilpalm plantations and groves. The project, which requires a total investment of 17.1 million accounting units and an area of 12,517 hectares, will be operated by the State Palmoil Industry Society and is scheduled for completion in 1986.

The German Finance Company for Investments in Developing Countries (DEG), Cologne, is participating in promoting the growth of rubber tree plants. It granted, in 1983, a DM 1.5 million investment-type loan to the Societe Africaine de Plantations d'Heveas S.A., (SAPH), Abidjan, and thereby increased its total financial contribution to DM 12.5 million. The SAPH established another rubber plantation at Rapides Grah, in the south-western region of the Ivory Coast. Other financial participants were the state-owned French Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique (CCCE), Paris; the British Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC), London; the European Investment Bank (EIB), Luxembourg; and the local Banque Nationale de Developpement Agricole (BNDA), Abidjan.

The DEG also increased its financial investment in the Koda-Fleurs Côte d'Ivoire S.A., Abidjan, by DM 0.5 million to DM 1.2 million last year in order to facilitate an expansion investment. Koda-Fleurs grows flowers, especially anthurias, for export to the Federal Republic of Germany and other European markets. The German technical partner is the medium-sized import firm Koda-Fleurs Damman K.G., Geldern. The expansion investment is to make it possible to double the area to be cultivated from 5 to 10 hectares. Prior to that, the DEG had been involved in two textile companies, namely, Impressions sur Tissus de Cote d'Ivoire S.A. (Icodi), Abidjan, and La Cottonniere S.A. (Cotivo), Agboville, as well as in the wood-processing firm Menuiseries Ivoiriennes SarL (M.I.), Abidjan, and the fertilizer factory Societe Ivoirienne d'Engrais S.A. (Siveng), Abidjan. In addition, it supports the development bank Banque Ivoirienne de Developpement Industriel (BIDI), Abidjan.

In the summer of 1981, the firm Ziegel- und Kunststoffwerke [tile and plastics factory] Heinrich Oltmanns, Jeddelloh/Oldenburg, decided to undertake a direct investment jointly with the Banque Ivoirienne de Developpement Industriel (BIDI) which led to the establishment of the joint venture Societe Ivoirienne H. Oltmanns (Siho). For the first construction phase of a factory at Banoua to produce coconut fibers to cover drainage pipes, expenditures in the amount of DM 2.5 million had been estimated. So far, the German firm has imported almost all raw materials for the manufacture of coconut-fiber covered full-filter pipes from Sri Lanka.

In October 1984, the FRG granted the Ivory Coast development aid of DM 29.6 million. This includes DM 15 million of financial aid for 1984 and DM 14.6 million in technical assistance for 1984/85. Negotiations also took place on new loans in the amount of DM 85.5 million which had been promised earlier. The funds are now to be used primarily for agricultural development.

Specifically, DM 25 million will go to small rice growers, DM 18 million for water supply and DM 16 million for road construction, among other things. Most recently, FRG development assistance was primarily used for the water supply of small towns and rural electrification.

In June 1984, the African Development Bank, Abidjan, granted the Ivory Coast a credit of 6 million accounting units (one accounting unit equals about \$1.6) to finance part of a cattle-breeding project in the central and south-western province whose total costs are estimated at about 10 million accounting units. Project leader is the Societe pour le Developpement des Productions Animales (Soderpa), Abidjan.

During the Sixth Industrial Forum, which will be held in Dakar (Senegal) in early December 1984, the Ivory Coast is expected to submit 10 industrial projects for which she would like to have suitable foreign partners. She is above all interested in establishing small and medium-sized enterprises in the agro-industry sector. The largest project is the construction of a chemical plant that is expected to require an investment of about \$ 20 million. The purpose of the factory is the manufacture of intermediate chemical products that are to be used in the production of palmoil-based soaps and in the domestic fertilizer industry.

7821

CSO: 3420/20

BRIEFS

EEC LOAN FOR ROAD--The minister of finance, the Honorable K.T.J. Rakhetla, today signed an agreement for a loan of 11.5 million maluti from the European Community, EEC. The loan will be utilized to finance a construction of a bituminous 27 kilometer road from Mohale's Hoek to Mikaling River. The road includes a (?six large spanned bridge) over the Maphutsaneng River. The loan is part of the Second Lome Convention vote for Lesotho, and is on soft terms, 40 years duration. It is anticipated that work on the road will commence in January or February 1985, and be completed within 2 years of the start day. At the same signing ceremony, the minister of finance signed a loan contract for 4 million maluti with the EEC for funding a navigational aid, metereological equipment, and communications equipment for the new international airport. The contract for this supply of equipment was awarded yesterday to the international [word indistinct] the United Kingdom. [Text] [Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 14 Dec 84 MB]

EEC AIRPORT CONTRACT--The honorable minister of transport and communications, Dr K.T. Maphathe, yesterday afternoon signed a contract of navigational aids and communications equipment for the new international airport with the delegation of the Commission of the European Communities, EEC. The contract, valued at 3.4 million maluti, is to cover the supply, installation, testing and commissioning of navigational aids, telecommunication equipment, and metereological equipment. The funding of the contract is in the form of a special loan provided for by the first Lome Convention agreed by the African, Caribbean and Pacific State member states of the EEC. [Excerpts] [Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Dec 84 MB]

JAPANESE AID--The governments of the Kingdom of Lesotho and Japan have agreed on grant in aid to the value of \$310,000 for the supply of rice. Half of the grant is to purchase rice, and the other half will be used to stabilise and develop the economy of Lesotho. The exchange of notes for this grant were signed in Lusaka, Zambia, by His Excellency Mr Masatoshi Ota, ambassador of Japan to Lesotho, and in Maseru by the honorable V. M. Makhele, minister of foreign affairs, and today in Maseru [words indistinct] took place. [Excerpt] [Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 14 Dec 84 MB]

UNITED PARTY DENIES LINKS WITH NDPL

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 30 Oct 84 p 12

[Text] The proposed Unity Party of Dr. Edward B. Kesselly has reacted to a report in West Africa magazine (October 22, 1984) in which it was reported that "Dr. Kesselly is leader of the Unity Party, which is believed to have strong links with Mr. Samuel Doe's National Democratic Party."

In a release signed by Dr. Kesselly, the Unity Party noted that "someone appears intent on linking Unity Party with the National Democratic Party of Liberia."

The Unity Party said that it is "preposterous to entertain any notion of a link between Unity Party and the National Democratic Party when we are not even aware of the aims of the other party."

The reaction noted that "whatever reason or reasons the person or persons might have for peddling this piece of propaganda, we view it as a sign of despair and defeat on the part of those who have concocted such a base strategy."

The Unity Party went on to "challenge anyone, anywhere, to present to the public any evidence, in any form, which links the Unity Party, even slightly, with the National Democratic Party of Liberia."

Denying the report further, the release said that "we wish to let it be known that when we are through with all the requirements for registration conferring on us a legal status, we shall hold anyone making any such false allegation about us answerable in law."

It may be recalled that recently, the Unity Party is led a release in which it denied alliance with any political party or group.

Noting the importance attached to the political future of the country, the Unity Party stressed that "it is too crucial to be traded off in any alliance that does not share the same vision."

CSO: 3400/346

LAP CHALLENGES NDPL ROSTER; PROBE REQUESTED

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 7 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] The Liberia Action Party (LAP) has challenged the partisans' list released recently by the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL), and has requested the Special Elections Commission to deny the NDPL final registration.

The LAP reaction follows numerous questions and comments which the public has raised since SECOM published in this newspaper, October 23-25, the NDPL partisans' registry, reflecting, according to the Election Guidelines, 500 partisans each from six counties of the Republic.

So far, the NDPL secretariat has declined to comment on the issues raised concerning their partisans' registry. And when contacted yesterday for their reaction to this latest challenge from LAP, NDPL leaders told our reporter that they would "reserve comment" until later this morning. According to the Guidelines, the list of partisans is subject to challenge within 20 days from the date filed.

In their first official reaction to the NDPL list published by SECOM, LAP said that NDPL's registration should be denied on the following grounds:

1. That the NDPL's partisans' list recently submitted to the Special Elections Commission failed to provide sufficient information as to give the people of Liberia, the voters and all concerned parties, including the Special Elections Commission, the opportunity to adequately ascertain the validity and legality of the said list.
2. That the NDPL partisans' registry for the various political subdivisions as submitted to the Special Elections Commission, carries only Voters Roll Number--which has created several duplications--when in fact it should have also carried the Constituency Number and the Center Number for each partisan or voter.

The Liberia Action Party, therefore, requested SECOM to reject the registry in its present form and have it declared null and void. It further said that publication of the registry should cease with immediate effect, and the NDPL politely advised to re-do its registry in a manner reflecting the Voters Roll

Number, the Constituency Number and the Center Number for each registered NDPL partisan, in order to legally satisfy the provisions of Section 1 and 5 of the Guidelines issued by the Special Elections Commission.

3. That the Special Elections Commission should instruct the National Democratic Party of Liberia to voluntarily withdraw their partisan registry with the right to refile after a list containing a much more comprehensive information has been prepared, and their failure to do so should leave the Commission with no alternative but to unilaterally declare invalid the NDPL list and deny registration to NDPL.

4. That in the event the National Democratic Party declines to withdraw their partisans list in the manner submitted to the Special Elections Commission, said NDPL should be denied full registration as a political party until this four-count challenge from the Liberia Action Party has been investigated and disposed of at a formal administrative hearing to be presided over by SECOM.

CSO: 3400/346

LIBERIA

LUP: SECOM'S GUIDELINES DISCRIMINATE AGAINST POOR

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 14 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] The Liberian Unification Party (LUP) says it plans to again submit pre-registration documents to the Special Elections Commission (SECOM) "possibly this week."

The Acting Chairman of LUP, Dr. Hne Leslie Greene, made the statement yesterday in an interview with the Daily Observer. He was responding to questions about his party's plans following SECOM's refusal last Friday to accept LUP's pre-registration documents.

SECOM's action stemmed from LUP's declared refusal to comply with section 4 (D) of the Guidelines for the registration of political parties requiring \$50,000 cash and \$100,000 sureties.

The confrontation between SECOM and LUP also seemed to have brewed as a result of a statement last Friday by the LUP acting chairman in which he said SECOM's Guidelines discriminates against the "poor of this country and deny the equal protection under the law..."

LUP's statement last Friday had hardly ended when SECOM Co-Chairman Albert White abruptly brought the meeting to a halt and refused to accept the party's pre-registration documents.

Mr. White described LUP's statement as a challenge to SECOM's authority.

The proposed Liberian Unification Party had gone to SECOM's Ashmun Street office last Friday with all its documents including checks and sureties; but the rationale for the precipitation of the row between it and SECOM is still not yet clear.

Commenting on SECOM's move last Friday, Dr. Greene said it was "regrettable." But he added: "what has happened, has happened."

The Acting LUP Chairman added that his party will still register with SECOM "to keep the public aware that we are still in the race."

He disclosed that a delegation from his party visited SECOM Headquarters on Monday "to hear from them," because it was SECOM which cut off the pre-registration program, and not LUP.

Dr. Greene then declared: "We assured them that we have fired a political gun and we shall definitely register with them."

If LUP is allowed to submit its pre-registration documents to SECOM this week it will be the fourth proposed political party to do so.

The other three are the National Democratic Party of Liberia of Head of State Doe; the Unity Party of Dr. Edward Kesselly and the Liberia Action Party, headed by Counsellor Tuan Wreh.

The Unity Party and the Liberia Action Party have gone a step further and submitted their partisans' registry to SECOM.

Meanwhile, LUP's youth wing Chairman, Mr. A. C. Plato Warner, and Secretary General, Mr. Buscer T. Hne Hennings, have revealed that LUP has about 10,000 youth members across the country.

According to the officials, despite LUP's large youth membership, it has also devised methods to "satisfy the demands of youths." These include academic and vocational benefits as well as counselling services.

The officials also say that LUP's youth wing has designed action development programs to develop youth in various fields and help to curb the high rate of social problems.

CSO: 3400/346

LIBERIA

DETAILS PROVIDED LPRC ALLEGED 'POLITICAL' DISMISSALS

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 21 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Four employees of the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC) have been dismissed for what management has referred to as "administrative reasons". However, one of the victims has connected the dismissal to "political motives" as all of them are members of another political party.

Those dismissed were S. Edgar Sie Badio, superintendent of the Legal Department; he is also a member of the Organizing Committee of the Liberia Action Party; Mr. John G. Sahn, superintendent Industrial Relations. He is also a member of the Organizing Committee of LAP.

Dismissed also is Mr. Richard Gaye, superintendent of Public Relations. Mr. Gaye is Treasurer of the United People's Party (UPP). Mr. Joseph Farquellie, a junior accountant, who has also been dismissed, is a member of the Liberian People's Party (LPP).

In a letter addressed to one of the dismissed employees, dated November 17, 1984, and signed by the Managing Director of LPRC, Aletha Johnson, it read: "Effective immediately, your services with the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company have been terminated for administrative reasons".

"Please accept my thanks for whatever service you may have rendered the corporation during the period of your employment," it concluded.

According to Mr. Farkollie, who joined the company on April 26, 1982, he had neither received a letter of warning from management nor suspension prior to his "surprising dismissal".

He told the Daily Observer that news circulating from higher authorities at LPRC had it that the dismissal of the four employees was promoted by the alleged connection with political parties.

He alleged that for his part the authorities had said that on many occasions his photograph had been spotted in newspapers and on television alongside Dr. Amos Sawyer who is Provisional Chairman of the Liberian People's Party.

Furthermore, Mr. Farkollie alleged: "It has been circulated among higher authorities at LPRC that I am one of those who had travelled to Ethiopia in 1981 to attend the Adult Literacy Programme and was recently described by Defense Minister Gray D. Allison as a saboteur".

When contacted by telephone yesterday, the Acting Managing Director of LPRC, Mr. Philip T. Davis, was non-committal, adding that only the Managing Director, who is presently out of the country, was in the position to comment on the dismissals of the employees.

Meanwhile, Mr. Badio and Mr. Sahn have been made full-fledged members of the Organizing Committee of LAP; and Mr. Badio has been given the portfolio of Chief Coordinator of all LAP regional political activities in Maryland County, while Mr. Sahn, an industrial relations expert, has been assigned as the Chief Coordinator of all LAP regional political affairs in Nimba County.

In another development, three government employees and a self-employed personnel were recently detained by the Superintendent of Gibi Territory, Major Amos Bohn, for what was allegedly referred to as their refusal to become members of the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL).

Those detained and threatened with losing their jobs included Mr. Kona Jones, a mechanic at the Ministry of Public Works branch in Kakata; Mr. Christopher Togba, a clerk typist in the Superintendent's office; Janga Sheriff, also a mechanic at the Ministry of Public Works branch and Mr. Henry Davis, a marketer.

The victims of the reported action of Superintendent Bohn alleged that they were all detained at the "Carter High" prison on the Bong Mines Road without any investigation conducted into "why we did not want to align ourselves with any of the political parties."

However, they said, "We were released after a day in detention only to be told by Superintendent Bohn that 'we were being held for administrative reasons.'"

All efforts by our reporter to contact or reach the Superintendent or his assistant in Kakata proved futile.

CSO: 3400/349

NDPL CHAIRMAN KPOTO DENIES HARASSMENT ACCUSATIONS

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpts] The National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) has challenged anyone or group to produce evidence within a competent court of law that people are being harassed for refusing to join the party.

Speaking during a ceremony at the Special Elections Commission (SECOM) Friday, NDPL chairman, Kekura Kpoto denied persistent rumours that people were being dismissed or threatened with dismissal for not affiliating with the party.

"Now that we are a party," he added "we challenge anyone to take us to court, then we will prove that they are liars."

A local newspaper had reported last week that four employees of the Liberian Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC) were dismissed for affiliating with parties other than NDPL.

The Unity Party and Liberia Action Party had also complained to SECOM that officials and partisans of NDPL were harassing and intimidating their members who were canvassing for membership in some parts of the country.

SECOM Chairman Emmett Harmon Friday told newsmen that the commission was "looking into" these allegations. He insisted that newsmen should not use the word "investigation."

Barely three hours later, the Liberia News Agency (LINA) quoted the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, J. Bernard Blamo, as ordering the immediate release from detention of representatives of UP and LAP reportedly arrested in Lofa and Grand Gedeh counties while soliciting membership for their respective parties.

During the ceremony Friday, NDPL Chairman Kpoto also dismissed as "untrue" reports that several superintendents were serving as local leaders of the NDPL.

He challenged anyone to come forward with evidence to prove this.

Mr. Kpoto's statement was in response to questions from newsmen who wanted to know whether superintendents J. Gondah Walkie and Venetius Vokpor of Nimba and Bong Counties, respectively, are not local leaders of the NDPL.

At this point, the barrage of questions from journalists were halted by SECOM Chairman Harmon who maintained that the occasion was not the proper forum for such questioning.

He insisted that the press should arrange a conference with officials of NDPL at their party's headquarters.

SECOM's co-chairman, Albert White, later accused journalists of always harassing members of the commission. He did not elaborate.

CSO: 3400/344

DOE ORDERS SUPREME COURT TO REVOKE SCOTT'S SUSPENSION

Military Prerogative

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Head of State has ordered the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to take back his decision of the court against Mr. Jenkins Scott, Minister of Justice, and to "immediately restore" to the Justice Minister the rights and privileges to practice law in the Republic of Liberia.

Dr. Doe took this stand yesterday after the Supreme Court, in a unanimous ruling handed down on Friday, held the Minister of Justice in contempt and suspended him from practising law for two years.

The Head of State observed that as a matter of courtesy and respect to his office, no action of such magnitude should have been taken against any of his ministers by the head of another branch of government without his knowledge.

"Ours is still basically a military government," Head of State Doe pointed out, and with the absence of a constitution, the three branches of government --Executive, Judiciary and Legislative--are not necessarily separate and distinct. The process of going through channels should therefore be observed, he stated.

The Head of State noted that the action of the Supreme Court to suspend his Minister of Justice from legal practice was seen as "an attempt to embarrass government" since it is obvious that the Minister of Justice is expected to represent the state at any time to defend government as the occasion may arise.

Dr. Doe, who is also President of the Interim National Assembly, pointed out that like the Chief Justice, the Justice Minister was appointed by him, and as such, critical action against the Minister should have been first referred to him (the Head of State).

When contacted by telephone late yesterday for his reaction, Chief Justice Emmanuel Gbalazeh told the Daily Observer that he had no comment on the statement by the Head of State. Asked whether he would be meeting with his colleagues today, (Monday) he replied yes, as the Supreme Court is still in session. The October term of the court was not adjourned, he added.

The Chief Justice noted that the decision suspending the Justice Minister from practice for two years was unanimous and met the approval of all five Justices of the Court.

The Supreme Court noted in its ruling Friday that Minister Scott had launched a very critical attack on the Liberian Judiciary when he (Scott) "accused judges and lawyers of receiving bribes" and attributing "rampant jury tamperings" to the courts and lawyers.

The attacks were contained in an article published by the New Liberian following an interview after the Justice Ministry's unsuccessful attempts to prosecute the Commissioner of Insurance at the Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Ben T. Collins.

Following the publication, the Supreme Court cited Minister Scott and the Editor-in-Chief of the New Liberian, for contempt.

'Judicial Release'

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 27 Nov 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Supreme Court of Liberia, in response to a directive from Head of State CIC Doe, has issued a special judicial release lifting the suspension of Justice Minister Jenkins Scott from practicing law in the country.

A release signed by Chief Justice Emmanuel Gbalazeh, said: "In obedience to the directives of the Head of State and President of the Interim National Assembly, CIC Dr. Samuel K. Doe, as contained in a Special Executive Mansion release Sunday afternoon, to reinstate Counsellor Jenkins K.Z.B. Scott to the practice of law, and realizing the supreme executive power of the military government in Liberia to which the judiciary is subject The suspension of Counsellor Scott is lifted with immediate effect".

Meanwhile, in a special message to the Minister of Information Carlton A. Karpeh, the Chief Justice has indicated that the fine imposed against Miss Aletha Roberts, Editor-In-Chief of the NEW LIBERIAN newspaper has been waived.

Minister Karpeh has expressed thanks to the Chief Justice and pointed out that his action was a positive step in the interest of freedom of the press.

Ordering the restitution of legal rights to the justice minister Sunday, Head of State Doe said the chief justice's action was an attempt to embarrass government, especially when it was obvious that the minister is expected to represent the state at any time, and to defend government when ever the occasion arises.

Dr. Doe had noted that like the chief justice, the minister of justice is also appointed by him, and such critical action against the minister should have been first referred to him.

Minister Scott was last Friday suspended from his post as dean of the National Bar Association by the Supreme Court and barred from practicing law in Liberia, directly or indirectly, for two years.

The Supreme Court's action stemmed from strong criticism of the Judiciary made by the justice minister in an interview with this paper last September.

For allegedly conniving with Minister Scott to "defame" the judiciary, Editor Roberts was fined \$500 by the court.

'Judicial Crisis'

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 27 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpts] A three-day national convention of lawyers is scheduled to begin this Thursday, during which participants are expected to speak on current crisis facing the Judiciary.

This was disclosed by the Secretary General of the National Bar Association, Counsellor David Jallah, who said the convention would focus attention on several issues, including the action taken yesterday by the Supreme Court Chief Justice Emmanuel N. Gbalazeh, to lift the two-year prohibition order on Justice Minister Jenkins Scott from practising law in the country.

The action taken by the Chief Justice to rescind the Supreme Court's decision against Minister Scott was in response to the order of the Head of State and President of the Interim National Assembly, Dr. Samuel K. Doe.

In a press release on Sunday, the Head of State ordered the Chief Justice to overturn the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court against Mr. Jenkins Scott, and "immediately" restore to the Minister all rights and privileges accorded him to practice law in the country.

In obedience to the order of the Head of State, Chief Justice Gbalazeh yesterday lifted the suspension of Counsellor Jenkins Scott from practising law directly and indirectly in the country.

However, it is not clear whether the lone signature of the Chief Justice on the press statement rescinding the unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court disqualifies the opinion of the entire Justices of the Supreme Court who had unanimously met and signed their judgment against the Minister of Justice.

The opinion was expected to have become a legal document should it not have required to be cancelled.

Meanwhile, Justice Gbalazeh briefly told our reporter yesterday that he had nothing else to say other than the fact that "this is a military government, and we have to obey the directives given".

The whole legal problems grew out of what the Supreme Court had described as very critical statements the Justice Minister had allegedly made and which were published in the government-owned newspaper, the New Liberian.

WOLOKOLLIE 6-MONTH DETAINMENT WITHOUT TRIAL DETAILED

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 28 Nov 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] Mr. Dusty Wolokollie received the shock of his life yesterday when he was required by the Criminal Court to remain in jail for another three months until his case comes up for trial in February, 1985.

Wolokollie is a member of the Liberia People's Party (LPP), and has been in detention since three months ago on charges of violating PRC Decree No. 88A. The decree empowers the security to arrest and detain anyone suspected of carrying lies, rumours and disinformation.

Wolokollie had been originally charged along with one Anthony Kesselly, also of LPP. He had successfully won a legal battle for separate trial because of the mysterious whereabouts of Anthony Kesselly.

The trial of the case had been duly assigned for November 26; but few days to the date of the trial, prosecution lawyers urged the court to suspend the case until February 1985 session.

The prosecution said their motion was due to the illness of their material witness, George B. Browne, who had been issued a medical certificate by the Island Clinic of Monrovia to stay off duty for 90 days. The prosecution produced the medical certificate signed by Dr. Augustine Amechi to substantiate the physical unhealthiness of witness Browne. The indictment brought against the accused shows that the Minister of Justice is another prosecution witness in the case.

On Friday, the defense lawyers filed their resistance and called on the court to try the case as scheduled.

In a pre-trial conference with Judge Benedict Kennedy, the judge presiding, the defense asked the court to hear the motion on that Friday. But the prosecution requested the court to hear the motion on Monday, November 26.

However, the judge decided to hear the motion on Monday, because of what he described as a "capital offense" with which the defendant had been charged and to which he is not allowed to file bail.

He said the court would take "courteous step" in the case because "the defendant's liberty as at stake" and he is not to tender bail.

During the proceedings on Monday, it was observed that the defense counsel had withdrawn their original resistance and filed an amendment resistance with the attached copy of an affidavit under the signature of Dr. Augustine Amechi. The affidavit denied the credibility of the medical certificate which had been issued to George Browne by Dr. Amechi.

In an attempt to clarify the issuance of the certificate, the court summoned Dr. Amechi, who appeared and testified that he signed the certificate and the affidavit.

Dr. Amechi explained that it was "unfortunate" for him to have signed the affidavit. He said he could not reach the original certificate because it was on Sunday when he was approached at his house by the defense counsel.

During a heated legal tussle by both the prosecution and defense lawyers, the court tried to know whether any party litigant attempted to ascertain the truthfulness of the sickness of witness George Browne of the National Security Agency (NSA).

No one told the court that he saw George Browne anywhere.

The court, therefore, upheld the request of the prosecution to suspend the case until the February 1985 session of the court.

The defense took exception to the judge's ruling and gave notice that they would "take advantage of the statute controlling".

CSO: 3400/344

UNITY PARTY ROSTER CHALLENGED FOR 'DUPLICATION'

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 3 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] A number of "concerned" citizens have challenged the partisans roster released recently by the Unity Party (UP).

In their letters to the Special Elections Commission (SECOM), these "concerned" citizens said they observed "duplication" and "fictitious" constituencies in the party's list of partisans published in the DAILY OBSERVER newspaper.

The publication of UP's membership roster reflecting 500 partisans from each of six political subdivisions of the country, was in fulfilment of election guidelines for party registration.

According to the guidelines, the list of partisans is subject to challenge within 20 days from the date filed. The DAILY OBSERVER commenced publication of the UP partisan list some three weeks ago.

In his petition to SECOM, one of the "concerned" citizens Mr. Daniel Sluwar of Broad Street, Monrovia, asked the commission to clarify whether or not it is possible for five or more persons in the same county to have the same voter registration and constituency number under the same center and same day.

In his letter, a copy of which was made available to this paper, Sluwar questioned whether it was right for an individual from any county to create his or her own constituency number that does not exist in a county.

As a concerned citizen, Sluwar said he had observed that the UP partisans' list for Lofa County published by SECOM in the DAILY OBSERVER dated November 19, and noticed that many of the names were duplicated.

In another letter, Nyanbeor Al-Boley of Paynesville outside Monrovia, alleged that UP had intentionally outrun the approved number of constituencies in Bomi County as observed in the UP partisans' list for that area published in the November 20 edition of the DAILY OBSERVER.

He pointed out that according to SECOM, Bomi County is limited to only three constituencies.

He urged SECOM to investigate the issue pointing out that "such fraudulent act on the part of the UP cannot and will not be condoned by the masses of Liberia."

He also suggested that SECOM should reject or cancel the 470 names listed on constituencies not existing in Bomi County.

(The two letters have been re-produced in their entirety on page 7.)

So far, the UP organizing committee has declined to comment on the issue, insisting that to do so would be improper since SECOM has not raised the matter.

The chairman of SECOM, Emmett Harmon, was not available for comment when this paper contacted his office Friday.

A secretary there refused our reporter audience with Mr. Harmon after he briefed her on the nature of his visit.

She insisted that replies to these "concerned" citizens would be sent to them directly and not through the press.

"Have these individuals empowered you to investigate the matter on their behalf?" she asked our reporter.

CSO: 3400/349

ARRESTED LAP MEMBER REPORTEDLY RELEASED

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 7 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Mr. Wilmot McCritty, a member of the Liberia Action Party (LAP), who was ordered arrested and detained on Tuesday in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, by Superintendent John Y. Kreku, has been released.

He was released on Wednesday night following a swift intervention of LAP and the Special Elections Commission (SECOM).

Mr. McCritty's detention came on Tuesday following reports made to Superintendent Kreku that he had allegedly engaged in canvassing for LAP without a letter of permission from SECOM authorizing him to do so, coupled with his alleged intimidation of natives of No. 4 District, Grand Bassa County, while carrying on the exercise.

But, following his release, Mr. McCritty described the allegations as false, malicious and unfounded, adding that it was only intended to publicly discredit him.

He stated that he had merely provided transportation to the accredited canvassers to their designated places of registration, and that he was not personally involved in registering LAP partisans, knowing that he had no accreditation from SECOM to engage in such an exercise.

His release came after a two-man LAP delegation, comprising LAP's Vice Chairman Harry A. Greaves, Sr. and LAP Coordinator, Dr. Nah-Doe Bropleh, delivered letters from the Special Elections Commission to the Superintendent's office amid jubilation.

SECOM acted on the urgent plea made by the Organizing Committee of LAP requesting the Commission's intervention to have Mr. McCritty released. LAP called on SECOM to act "in the interest of eliminating official oppression being perpetrated on LAP registered partisans by some over-zealous superintendents, who are attempting, wittingly or unwittingly, to give the Doe Government a bad name during this period of canvassing and transition to democratic civilian rule."

SECOM wrote two letters to Superintendent Kreku to permit McCritty to travel and canvass for the registration of LAP partisans in the county and appealed to the superintendent to have Mr. McCritty released.

Mr. McCritty, a former member of the now dissolved Constitutional Advisory Assembly, is now spearheading the county-wide drive for the mass registration of LAP members in Grand Bassa County "without force, coercion or intimidation."

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the National Organising Committee of LAP, Counselor Tuan Wreh, has commended SECOM for its swift action in facilitating the "immediate release of Mr. McCritty and in bringing the political tension in Bassa, caused by the arrest, under control."

CSO: 3400/349

NHSB, FRENCH BANK SIGN CREDIT AGREEMENT

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 22 Nov 84 pp 3, 6

[Text] An export credit agreement was recently signed between the National Housing and Savings Bank (NHSB) and Banque Internationale Pour L'Afrique Occidentale (BIAO) headquartered in Paris, France.

Signing for NHSB was its vice president for credit and marketing, Mr. Alvin E. Eastman, while Messrs. Didier Laval-Charvet and Bernard Jauffret of BIAO's International Loans Department signed for their bank.

According to a NHSB release the two banks mutually agreed to strengthen their relationship in the framework of the accord, and to facilitate the extension of commercial credit links between customers of the NHSB and French suppliers of industrial goods and services.

Under the terms of this Agreement, BIAO will finance under buyers' credits with the guarantee of the NHSB contracts which would be entered into and signed between private Liberian buyers customers of NHSB, and French suppliers. The NHSB will guarantee the reimbursement of these credits after having studied, confirmed and agreed on a case by case basis of each specific project (contract) that the borrower is validly constituted, the release said.

The maximum amount of this credit agreement is \$3 million or its equivalent in French franc.

Contracts eligible under this Agreement should have a French part between \$125,000 to \$600,000 which shall be made available to the borrower at the signature of the contract.

The duration of the credit ranges from two to seven years or more depending on the nature of the supplies and the amount involved.

The credit is repayable semi-annually six months after the delivery date of the equipment or the commissioning date of a plant.

CSO: 3400/346

PASTORAL LETTER CONDEMNS 'EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE, POWER'

Decree 88 A

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 4 Dec 84 p 8

[Excerpt] The Catholic Bishops of Liberia have requested that Decree 88A be withdrawn, so that the right to freedom of speech and of the press may be enjoyed by all citizens of the country.

In a 12-page Pastoral Letter, read in Catholic churches throughout the country Sunday, the Archbishop of Monrovia, Most Rev. Michael K. Francis and the Bishop of Cape Palmas, Rt. Rev. Boniface Nyemah Dalieh, said they felt that the intention of the decree, "to outlaw lying, and prevent the spread of malicious rumours", was "praiseworthy".

But, said the bishops, "the means proposed to achieve this end are open to question."

"The public, unhindered exposure of the truth is the best way of counteracting lies and false accusations in a free society", the bishops declared.

The decree, said to have been the last to be composed by the defunct People's Redemption Council before its dissolution last July, makes it a "criminal felony of the first degree" if a person "accuses any executive authority, judicial authority, member of the Interim National Assembly or any other individual either by word or mouth, writing or by public broadcast of conduct or any act which constitutes the commission of a crime, provided that at a time such accusation the purpose of the author is (a) to thereby injure the official or other individual in his reputation to undermine his official or personal status; (b) to create disharmony, spread rumours, lies and disinformation; (c) to undermine the security of the State, cause civil strife or confusions, labour unrest, hinder, impede or interfere with the electoral process...".

The Decree, dated July 21, 1984, said the security forces "are hereby empowered to arrest and detain any person who violates any of the provisions contained in Section I herein."

Since its promulgation, many institutions, including this newspaper, have expressed serious reservations about the decree. Two persons, Messrs. Dusty

Wolokollie and Anthony Kesselly, have been accused and their trial pending, of alleged violation of the decree.

Faithful Public Duty

The bishops called on all Catholics to take seriously their public duties, especially to the State.

"Catholics skilled in public affairs and adequately enlightened in faith and Christian doctrine", said the bishops, "should not refuse to administer public affairs since, by performing this office in a worthy manner, they can simultaneously advance the common good and prepare the way for the Gospel."

The bishops rejected the notion that politics was a "dirty game" indulged in by the ruthless and greedy. Instead, they said, the church speaks of the "difficult but most honorable art of politics".

Quoting the second Vatican Council, the major policy-making forum of the Catholic church, the bishops said, "...Let those (Catholics) suited for politics...work to exercise this art without thought of personal convenience, and without benefit or bribery.

"Prudently and honourably", the bishops went on, "let them fight against injustice and oppression, the arbitrary rule of one man or party, and lack of tolerance. Let them devote themselves to the welfare of all sincerely, fairly, indeed with charity and political courage."

Arbitrary Arrests

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 5 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] The Catholic bishops of Liberia have condemned arbitrary arrests, detentions without trial and excessive use of force and power; saying, these practices could lead to instability and frustration among the general public.

"A stable government," said the bishops, "will only exist if the rights of the people are understood and protected."

Archbishop Michael K. Francis of Monrovia and Bishop Boniface N. Dalich of Cape Palmas gave these poignant admonitions in a Pastoral Letter prepared for the church's Advent Season and read in Catholic Churches throughout the country last Sunday.

Touching on "politics in Liberia" in their Pastoral Letter, the bishops recalled that recent Liberian history had shown that the perpetrators of social injustice and human rights denials became "themselves the first victims" of these unfortunate practices.

"Man's social and political nature will not acquiesce to outrage" they warned, and further declared, "we now insist that there be no more bloody revolutions in Liberia."

The bishops said the fundamental principle of state authority is to promote the common good of the people in order to maintain a stable government.

They noted that if that principle is violated, state authority has betrayed the very purpose of its existence.

The promotion of the common good must involve the whole state machinery in order to be effective. In implementing this basic rule, the bishops said, every effort must be made to overcome tribalism and selfishness which, they insisted, "have no place in the new government of our country."

They recommended that the government should highly regard and earnestly pursue the just distribution of goods and services among all citizens; and added, "Human rights must be respected at every level."

CSO: 3400/349

MORRIS CONFRONTS STUDENTS ASSEMBLED TO DISCUSS UL ISSUES

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 5 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Text] Students of the University of Liberia have been given the choice to decide whether they are prepared to resume classes or prefer to have the University closed.

The choice was given by the UL President, Dr. Joseph G. Morris, during a meeting yesterday by a large group of students which gathered in the auditorium on the University's main campus in Monrovia.

The meeting was arranged by a group calling itself "Students Organised to Save the University (SOSU)". It was intended to serve as a forum for discussion by the students of a position paper on the reopening of the university.

Characterized by chanting of slogans and the raising of fists in the air, the meeting was at a certain point interrupted by a UL authority who, upon hearing the noise, came in to inquire about the reason for the meeting. He also wanted to know whether it was being held with the consent of the UL authorities. He was accordingly booed by the students who claimed that they have all rights to gather and discuss issues affecting them.

Upon arrival in the auditorium, apparently to contain the situation, Dr. Morris, the new University President, told the students that their meeting was a matter of serious concern, because they were creating a situation which was not in keeping with orderly pattern of behaviour of university students.

He quickly pointed out that the new administration will not hesitate to act if the students came forward to clearly state that they are not prepared to resume classes.

"We will not force ourselves to be here if you make us to understand that you are not ready to resume classes", he stated.

He indicated that the new administration has been doing everything possible to get the university reopen with the hope that the students will utilize the opportunity to continue their studies.

During the meeting, several issues which were outlined for concerted action were being discussed under examination of opinions prior to the interruption.

Among other things outlined for discussion were the demand for "maximum security for students and the setting up of a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the August 22 Army invasion" of the University Campus.

Other issues on the agenda to be discussed were the "rejection of the new administration" and the demand for the "reinstatement of administrators and faculty members dismissed on August 22 and after."

Giving analysis of the various points on the agenda, a spokesman for the group said that the students must be assured by the national government and the UL administration that they (the students) will neither be molested nor faced by any caction similar to that of August 22 in which "most of our colleagues and others were brutalized."

He immediately called the attention of his fellow students to the "current situation of one of our colleagues, Ezekiel Pajibo, Acting President of the Liberia National Student Union (LINSU), who is being detained."

He accused the current UL President of "knowing something about the detention of Pajibo."

The UL President, who almost went into tears before the students upon hearing this, told the students that he has no cause to place any of them at security risk. "How can I work towards the detention of a student when I don't know not even him alone, but nearly all of the students.

"You will have to make up your mind whether you are serious to get back to school" he concluded and left the auditorium.

The students, most of whom were quite touched by his expression, immediately began to leave the auditorium in low spirit. Some began to murmur, "We have to give this man a chance. We can't continue to act like this."

CSO: 3400/349

BRIEFS

GERMAN AID PROJECTS--The visiting German Parliamentary delegation has assured Liberia their country's continued assistance. Mr. Jochen Feileke, member of the German Parliamentary Committee for Economic Cooperation in charge of West Africa who gave the assurance on behalf of the delegation, however stressed that German Aid to Liberia would continue to take the form of rural projects. The delegation visited the Nimba County Rural Development Project in Saclepea, the Ganta Powerhouse under construction, and the Ganta Leprosy Center which were all undertaken with German assistance. Mr. Feileke said of the 140 countries which benefit from German aid, Liberia has "the highest per capita aid." [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 26 Nov 84 p 7]

ITALIAN STEEL MILL--Two separate manufacturing enterprises with a total investment capital of nearly \$21 million are expected to be set up here early next year, the National Investment Commission (NIC) disclosed here yesterday. The two enterprises, a \$15.9 million steel rolling mill, and a \$5 million fruit canning factory, in which Liberians will be privileged to buy shares, are to be undertaken by an Italian conglomerate called FINSIDAR. According to Mr. Kpargmai, a Mercedes Benz assembly plant is also to be set up here. [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 15 Nov 84 pp 1, 6]

IVORIAN OIL DRILLING TRAINING--Liberia and the Ivory Coast have agreed to revitalize all bilateral agreements that were tabled after the April 12, 1980 coup in Liberia. According to Liberia's Ambassador to the Ivory Coast Mr. Harold C. Tarr, the construction of a hydro electric dam on our common border, was among several ventures that had been previously earmarked for implementation but were shelved in the wake of the military takeover in Liberia. Ambassador Tarr, who is home for consultation with Foreign Ministry officials said the Ivorian Minister for Lands and Mines has agreed to provide training for Liberians in the area of oil drilling. He said the Ivorian Minister however suggested that a meeting be arranged with his Liberian counterpart for them to work out the modalities for the training program. Mr. Tarr, in an interview with the NEW LIBERIAN last week, said the Ivorian Information Minister is expected to visit Liberia in the near future to hold talks on ways of improving communication links between the two nations. [Lawrence Thompson] [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 12 Nov 84 pp 1, 6]

BELGIAN OIL PALM AGREEMENT--To what may be described as a major step forward since the creation of Decree No. 82 in February this year calling for the

consolidation of all oil palm activities in the country, the National Palm Corporation (NPC) and a Belgium firm, Vandekechove (VDK), at the weekend signed at \$6.7 million credit agreement in Monrovia. According to an Agriculture Ministry release, the money, which is 100 per cent VDK financing, will be used to supply a vegetable oil refinery with a day's production capacity of 30 to 60 tons palm olein fully neutralized, bridged and deodorized in plastic bottles for use in Liberia. The refinery, expected to be completed in mid 1986, will be located at the Free Zone of Monrovia. It will also produce palm stearin for the export market and will provide job opportunities at all levels of employment. The release further stated that the establishment of the refinery will initially be for import substitution in a bid to supply all local needs resulting from a complete elimination of the import of refined edible oil for local consumption and depending on the demand when the factory reaches its optimum productivity. [Excerpts] [Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 15 Oct 84 pp 1, 10]

FOREIGN TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS--In a bid to further halt financial wastage within government, Head of State Samuel K. Doe Monday announced at a Cabinet meeting that he intends to re-enforce restriction on foreign travels. The Head of State reportedly expressed disgust over the upsurge in foreign travels by government officials, despite imposed restrictions. In the future, he said, government will only authorize those trips which are necessary and of economic benefit to government. Dr. Doe said the same applies to travels resulting from bilateral and multilateral commitments, such as the UN, ECOWAS, OAU and Mano River Union meetings. Those relating to scheduled conferences and meetings of organizations to which Liberia is a member, will be undertaken by diplomatic missions nearest the venue, he explained. In addition, the Head of State said, per diem rates were to be reduced by 25 percent. He furthermore said, for all state visits where accommodation and local travelling expenses are borne by the host country, only 50 percent of the regular per diem rates were to be provided, the Head of State had announced. [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 18 Oct 84 p 8]

LEC CONTRACT WITH DANES--The Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) last Friday signed at \$1.2 million contractual agreement with the Burmeister and Wain (B&W) Company of Denmark to rehabilitate unit 3 of the LEC thermal plant on Bushrod Island in Monrovia. Under the contract, the Danish company will repair the unit within eight and a half months and recommission it to produce its installed capacity of 13.8 megawatts on full load. The contract further stipulates that B&W will train LEC technicians, operators, and engineers and also upgrade the corporation's workshop at the Luke Plant on Bushrod Island. In remarks, Defence Minister, Major General Gray D. Allison, who is chairman of the LEC Board of Directors explained that the Liberian economy had been affected during the past three years by numerous power outages during the dry seasons. [Excerpts] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 15 Oct 84 p 7]

CSO: 3400/344

ECONOMIC PROGRESS, DEMOCRACY SURVIVAL GIVE CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM

Paris LE MONDE in French 1 Dec 84 p 6

[Article by Jean-Claude Pomonti: "Mauritius, or Democracy Despite Itself"]

[Text] The small state in the Indian Ocean has recovered from the serious political crisis of last year. It is beginning to diversify its economy.

Port-Louis--"That is not hypocrisy, Mr Chairman, that is art!" Speaking in French to the speaker of the chamber, the official leader of the opposition, Mr Berenger, was poking fun at his counterpart, Aneerood Jugnauth, the first Hindu prime minister, who listened with a visibly annoyed expression. On the occasion of the recent visit by Indian President Singh, the markings on the ambulances donated by Pretoria--"Gifts of the Republic of South Africa"--were discreetly removed.

The "Speech from the Throne," including the budget presentation, had been given a few days before this session. On this day, Paul Berenger, again minority leader after his election defeat in 1983, had the rostrum.

This French-Mauritian, an elderly "68-er" and outstanding trade union man, who for 9 months until March 1983 had been a "remarkable" minister of finance, in the words of foreign experts, did not spare his criticisms of the government. "I already feel like an old sage," he said with a smile.

At 39, the secretary general of the Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM) remains, at any rate, the God of some and the devil of others on this island with more than 1 million inhabitants. He is a kind of goad with which any government must cope, either with himself or through the opposing camp.

Mr Jugnauth told us: "The opposition? Angels within the Assembly, but they do the country a great wrong." There is no longer anything between the head of the Mauritian Government and his former mentor, Mr Berenger. Today opponents, they traveled a long part of the road together. The former was for 10 years president of the MMM. In June 1982, they were together the poster figures of the left, with Mr Berenger conducting an assault that won them victory against a coalition of the Labor Party, worn threadbare after 13 years in power, and the Mauritian Social Democratic Party (PMSD), a small organization led by Gaetan Duval, a picturesque figure in the island's life, and today prime minister.

The tandem did not long survive the exercise of power. Mr Jugnauth was president of the MMM mainly because he belongs to the Hindu community, which constitutes half the population. It was for the same "ethnic" motive that he became prime minister. An ally of circumstance, Harish Boodhoo, leader of the Malagasy Socialist Party, had been promised the post of deputy prime minister. However, this Hindu, who a few years ago wanted to be regarded as the "Ghandi of Mauritius," has shown himself to be an accomplished maneuverer. He played the prime minister against his minister of finance with such skill that at the end of 9 months Mr Berenger resigned, drawing in his wake 10 other ministers out of 17. "I chose the test of force, the 'showdown,' for we could no longer work," he says today.

This collapse of the leftist cabinet prompted early general elections in August 1983, preceded by a very hard campaign, with all low blows permitted. Certainly, the MMM did obtain 46 percent of the votes, but the electoral districting and the single candidate, one-round vote assured victory for its opponents. The victorious "alliance" was composed of the Militant Socialist Movement (MSM)--the new party of Jugnauth and Boodhoo, the Labor Party, and the PMSD. It dominates the Assembly even though it obtained only a small majority (51 percent of the vote). Defeated by 74 votes in his own district, Mr Berenger was "saved" by the system of "best losers," designed to balance the representation of the various communities and that enables the eight "best losers" to sit in the Assembly.

Politics in Mauritius is an affair of passion. Invective pours out and the press fulminates. How could it be otherwise in this arena that includes, in addition to at least half Hindus, 17 percent Tamils, a quarter Creoles, a small minority of French-Mauritians, and a considerable handful of Chinese; and where the economy is so fragile and dependent on foreign goodwill that in 1984 half of the foreign exchange receipts come from export of sugarcane bought by the EEC at almost triple its price on the world market?

However, the apparently explosive ethnic and religious mix and serious financial difficulties have not yet harmed the basic freedoms on this attractive island. "Our miracle," say the Mauritians, as if barriers, invisible but well placed, had thus far averted the irreparable. A former adviser of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the "father of independence" today promoted to the largely honorary post of governor, put it more prosaically: "The Mauritian miracle is the mixture of Chinese, Indian and Creole dishes, drama, and cultures."

Shortly after its independence, in 1969, Mauritius benefited considerably from a sugar boom thanks to the single crop of cane, with the EEC agreeing to honor a sugar agreement reached in the context of the Commonwealth. Since then, the price of sugar has plunged, and Brussels continues to purchase half a million tons of Mauritian sugar per year, at almost three times the prevailing price on the free market; that is, in a good year--without drought or major typhoons--80 percent of the local production. "A veritable sword of Damocles," Mr Berenger calls it, not being the only one concerned about the pressures by the European beet-growers to eliminate his country's "privilege."

The island is thus going through a time of sugar "restructuring" that has already been the subject of half a dozen plans and a considerable number of underhand maneuvers. Six plants out of 15 will have to close. The monopoly of the owners--the French-Mauritian dinosaurs, whom Socialist Mr Berenger takes care not to defend--is going to be buffeted by an association of capital workers. There is talk of "rationalization"--read "centralization"--in agreement with the IMF and the World Bank.

The minister of agriculture, who for 3 years has headed the Sugar Authority, is convinced that Mauritian sugar is "viable and competitive in the long term, even considering current market prices," and that this profitability is a condition for the island's "social, economic and political stability." He assures us that the "rehabilitation" of this sector must come through improvement of productivity, thus by an "end to the era of daddy's boy."

The minister of agriculture, whose opinion is widely shared here, believes in fact that the "major decisions must be taken quickly" in the sugar sector, in order, as he adds, to "avoid a catastrophe." However, the island's socio-economic equilibrium does not seem to be seriously threatened. Despite the overpopulation--more than 500 inhabitants per square kilometer--Mauritius is genuinely a developing country, as if economically it was more related to Southeast Asia than to neighboring Africa. The per capita annual income is over 10,000 francs. The literacy rate is over 80 percent. There is electricity supply in 150,000 homes, and in this small country there are 30,000 telephone subscribers.

The world recession explains in part the high unemployment rate, about 20 percent, and the fact that about 12,000 people are regarded as undernourished. The standard of living has dropped a little since 1981, and the state is in debt to the point of being forced to appeal to the IMF to obtain a rescheduling of its foreign debt. Finally, to feed its population, the island imports every year between 60,000 and 70,000 tons of rice, which it will never produce, and wheat flour.

"Free Zone" and Tourism

Yet the sugar sector accounts for no more than half of exchange receipts and employs only 85,000 people--including seasonal workers, while other sectors are making a breakthrough. Tea employs today, in small operations, some 10,000 families, and its earnings (300 million rupees, or 5 percent of the foreign exchange earnings) have increased six times in 3 years. The "free zone," of which units are spread throughout the island, employs 32,000 wage-earners, including about 30,000 poorly paid "apprentices" in the textile sector. This zone, which took a long time to become really established, accounts for 25 percent of foreign exchange earnings. Finally, luxury tourism has this year clearly recovered, since 140,000 visitors have been received in 1984, thus breaking the record of 1979, prior to the world recession.

Mauritius is also in the process of investing in livestock raising and food crops with the goal of achieving food self-sufficiency, except for rice and wheat flour. Already, corn is being grown in association with sugarcane.

The "rejuvenation" of the sugar sector, so dear to Mr Jugnauth, is again the subject of negotiation with the World Bank, and the Mauritian Government estimates that it will need an overall package of \$80 million to give the economy the stimulus it needs.

In the view of Mr Berenger, whose period in the finance ministry marked the beginning of the restoration, the current governing officials "are doing everything that should not be done." Others criticize Mr Jugnauth for having tried to "strangle" the press, and above all for practicing "communalism," by conducting the political game on the basis of ethnic considerations, regarding which the prime minister defends himself very energetically. He has outflanked the criticism by deploring the "under-representation of the Hindus" in the public service and by creating a lot of publicity about the visit of President Singh, and finally by proposing--before abandoning the plan--that one of the urns containing Indira Ghandi's ashes be brought to Mauritius.

The main reforms introduced by Mr Berenger have been renewed by the governmental "alliance," which had indeed criticized him for them during the 1983 election campaign. The duties on imports of flour and rice have been maintained. The cancellation of part of the "exit duty" imposed on sugar producers has been renewed in order to give them a little breath for their reconversion. "Diversification" of the economy is a theme whose importance everyone now recognizes. The negotiations with the IMF and the World Bank have resumed.

In Mr Jugnauth's view, Mauritius is "on the right course." Mr Berenger, though less optimistic, nevertheless believes that "unity, that is, the basis, has been preserved." In the interest of "calming the game," he is declining to demand the anticipated elections, despite the fact that he believes that the current government has lost much of its credit--because it has not fulfilled its election promises--and that the MMM, "After having come close to tragedy in 1983," has recaptured an audience that clearly cuts across the ethnic barriers. "We are controlling the situation and we will continue to calm the tensions," he said. Since the forced retirement of Sir Seewoosagur, the former prime minister, 83 years old, the political personnel have received some new blood, and Mauritius is facing its future head-on. Certainly, the climate is not idyllic. "Seditious tracts" and "provocative letters" are being put in mail boxes. However, verbal excesses and underhand maneuvers have not eliminated this little democracy, which, like the bamboo, bends in the wind without breaking.

9920

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INTER-PROVINCE MEETING TAKES PLACE IN TETE

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese '24 Nov 84 pp 1, 16

[Text] Yesterday, in Tete, at the opening session of the inter-provincial meeting, the leader of Sofala Province, Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos, said that it was a priority task for the four provinces to eliminate the armed bandits attempting to hamper the construction of socialism in Mozambique.

On the other hand, as the Sofala leader remarked, combating hunger and nakedness is also a current priority, and inter-provincial cooperation should be a mainspring for promoting the present battle.

The Tete meeting, which was a gathering of delegations from Sofala, Zambezia, Manica and Tete, headed by their leaders and governors, was also intended to analyze fulfillment of the decisions from the fourth inter-provincial meeting held in January of this year in Manica.

Yesterday, at the Tete Provincial Assembly Palace, the fifth session of the inter-provincial meeting of the central zone, comprising the provinces of Sofala, Zambezia, Manica and Tete, opened. The opening session was chaired by Politburo member Marcelino dos Santos, leader of Sofala Province.

The meeting was designed to analyze the performance of the tasks decided on at the last session of this organ, held in Manica during January of this year. Hence, the delegations here present will undertake primarily a study of the problems relating to supplies, transportation, communications, defense and security, issues for which study groups were created yesterday as well.

The delegations are headed by the respective provincial leaders and governors, and the presence of the provincial military commanders and directors of the supply, transportation, communications, defense and security areas was also noteworthy.

As Maj Gen Marcelino dos Santos stressed upon opening the meeting: "We want to analyze what has already been done about the difficulties that are facing us. In making this assessment, we must, here and now, ascertain where we stand in the process of implementing the decisions from the fourth meeting; and this will enable us to see where we are heading and how we want to move."

Moreover, the Sofala Province leaders declared: "The annihilation of all the imperialist maneuvers, represented currently by the BA's [armed bandits], aimed at hampering the process of constructing socialism in Mozambique, and the elimination of hunger and nakedness, are still the priority at present." As he claimed: "Cooperation among provinces should be a mainspring to promote the battling of those evils."

Description of the Opening Session

At about 1630 hours, and with the participants already in their proper seats, the presidium, consisting of the provincial leaders and governors from the central zone, opened the meeting in the conference room.

Immediately thereafter, the host governor, Eduardo Arao, delivered an address in which he offered those present a depiction of the current situation in Tete Province. He mentioned the existing problems, namely, the effects of the drought and the harmful actions by the armed bandits. On the other hand, he underscored the efforts that the entire population is expending to surmount those problems. As for the battle against the armed bandits, he cited the progress made, due partly to the bond between the people and the FPLM, and also emphasized the role of the people's vigilance.

With regard to the struggle to minimize the effects of the drought, and thereby eliminate hunger, he stressed the opening of dams and the use of irrigation using the "well sweep" process in some districts; which had met with great success in Angonia, Macanga, Maravia and Moatize.

Also to minimize the effects of this calamity, which has been suffered constantly for three years and which has already victimized thousands of people, he mentioned with great satisfaction the emergency aid rendered by the international community since April of this year.

For example, he reported to the participants that an American organization, CARE, had sent to the government of Tete Province 23 trucks to minimize the problem of transporting products to and from this section of the country.

Marcelino dos Santos left Beira at 1050 hours, making a stop at the Manica airport where he joined the delegation from this province and from there continued on to Tete.

Mario da Graca Machungo, who was in Beira, traveled in the same airplane that was carrying the groups from Sofala and Manica.

The delegations were warmly received by the population, which sang and performed dances that are part of our cultural heritage.

The meeting will conclude today, Saturday.

2909

CSO: 3442/107

REPORTERS VISIT WESTERN TETE PROVINCE, DESCRIBE CONDITIONS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28, 30 Nov, 3 Dec 84

[Three-part article by Salomao Moyana (AIM)]

[28 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] We arrive at the headquarters of Magoe district on an afternoon typical of Tete Province: severely scorching sun, and dry dust left in all corners by 4 years of merciless drought. Country folk are amazed to see a Toyota in an area which does not mind spending months without being disturbed by the roar of mechanical engines. There are bovine cattle and hogs, unhitched and in full view, on a futile search for the water holes which Tete's inclement sun has dried up. There are children with rickets, naively displaying their stomachs swollen from malnutrition. We have finally arrived in Magoe, the district bordering the fraternal Republic of Zimbabwe; hence a district with "Zimbabwenized" people, owing to the age-old coexistence with those on the other side of the fence.

The first impression that came over us was that it is not easy to reach Magoe from the city of Tete. What is easy is to reach there from Harare, because there the infrastructure required for travel has been created.

From the city of Tete to Magoe, we had to confront 260 kilometers of a "flat" route; in other words, we covered 100 kilometers on the paved portion and the rest on a combination of narrow paths and compressed earth. It took us 5 hours to span the distance separating us from that section of the country. We traveled in a fast vehicle procured in the city of Tete after a week of delicate "negotiations" with local institutions.

When we discerned the peak of the mountain at the foot of which lies the small town that is the district headquarters, the driver guiding us, rather toughened by this kind of work, showed a pathetic smile and said aloud: "Do you know that where we are going there is no piped water nor fuel for generating electric light?"

"No, we didn't know, but what is the purpose of that question?" I inquired.

"Well, I supposed there in Maputo, after a trip of this kind, you would have a glass of ice water or something similar," remarked the man, keeping his foot on the accelerator of the Land Cruiser.

We smiled a little, and then I told him that even in Maputo we would not drink that ice water, because in Maputo, even though it is Maputo, there are no freezers for sale nor is there that "something similar" that he had mentioned. From then on, the topic of conversation was the lack of products being experienced in both Niassa and Maputo, Tete, Beira and all of Mozambique. Our driver commented with specific data gleaned from his thorough knowledgeability concerning the black market in effect in the city of Tete.

A Good Reception.

"We have arrived in Magoe," I said at the beginning of this article. The district administrator, Joaquim Manuel, received us at his home. He did so like a father meeting his children after years of separation and yearning. I mean that he received us with great kindness and ease. He was having lunch when we arrived there, and invited us to join him. I recall that the invitation was a relief and quickly accepted, because the contrary would only be warranted by some inability on our part to realize that this kind of hunger can be treated only with a meal such as the one that we devoured there.

While the plates were being emptied, we explained to the administrator the purpose of our journey to that part of Mozambique. We stressed that we were seeking escape routes of the Mozambican fish from Cahora Bassa Lagoon to outside the country; because in the city of Tete we had heard from the provincial government leaders that the fish from the Zambeze River, owing to the lack of products of prime necessity for bartering with the fishermen, reach as far away as Botswana and South Africa. That claim made an immense impact on us, and we decided to find the routes whereby those fish escape and to alert all Mozambicans to the seriousness of the situation; because we do not want Mozambique, in the future, to be (naively) importing its own fish from South Africa or the interior countries.

The other concern that we voiced to administrator Joaquim Manuel was this: "What has the Mozambican Government already invested in the former liberated zones of Mossenguezi, Doe, Dewetewe, Chnagua, Nhambia, Mahanda, Zambeze and Tsatsa, all situated in the locality of Mucumbura, next to the Zimbabwe border?"

We also asked the administrator how Magoe district had survived (is surviving) the hunger that has affected the entire southern part of Tete. Joaquim Manuel, a calm man who is rather careful in his statements, wanted to know the method that we would use to find out everything we wanted to know.

We explained that we would like to visit all those areas, talk with the people about their problems and, finally, talk to the administrator or the governor (if necessary) to confirm certain claims. The Magoe administrator, in addition to agreeing with our program, offered to accompany us on those "forays" into the jungle.

He said that we would go to the former liberated zones first, and later seek the fish routes. However, while still at the administrator's residence, we learned that the main route for that escape was located in Chinhudzi, 390 kilometers west of the city of Tete.

The Preparations

When night fell, we had already devised the program for the following day. So, we supplied our Toyota, putting into its bed three large pots, two bags of cornmeal, a package containing blankets, several kilograms of sugar, a package of tea, three containers of water and 60 liters of gasoline for the Toyota to drink along the way. In addition to this small load (which would serve as rations for 2 days), about seven persons boarded the bed, including four armed with light weapons.

However, before the night ended we visited the neighborhoods of the Magoe district headquarters and observed the extent of the underdevelopment in the local infrastructures. We also learned about the meagerness of the infrastructure, essentially that related to the water supply. For example, we heard and personally saw that the population in the headquarters locality is experiencing enormous difficulties in obtaining water. There is no well in the vicinity of the town of Magoe, and the only place where one can find water for all the people in that locality is in a natural spring located at the foot of one of the hills surrounding the town. In addition to the people, all the livestock in the area visit that spring; and, other than this, there is no other known source of water in the vicinity.

None of the faucets in the entire town of Magoe have water, because it lacks the motor to pump that liquid from the natural spring located about half a kilometer away. But this situation does not exist only in the district headquarters, but also, in all of Magoe, where there is no piped water, and it is not easy to drill wells with the home-made implements that the local people have available.

Let us move on to the housing problem of Magoe's people, because houses made of zinc plating are as yet unknown in the region, much less those made of masonry. Let us stop at the problem of electric power, There is in the town an electrical generator which operates only 2 nights a week, because "we are saving the little fuel that we have," as a district director commented. There are also restrictions during those 2 days of operation. The motor is connected from 1900 to 2100 hours. There is darkness the rest of the time.

The reader who has never slept in Magoe may be unable to imagine the life of an "intellectual" in that part of Mozambique. In addition to the fact that there are no theaters or any kind of organized recreation, this means that in intellectual or peasant who likes to read at night is prevented from doing so and cannot do any writing. This is the problem of the elementary school-teachers with whom I talked in that town.

To summarize, the district of Magoe is one of the most disadvantaged in Mozambique. This district has always been isolated, even during the colonial period. This is why its people are more familiar with Zimbabwe than with Mozambique. But, at the same time, I think that a district of this kind is a test of our ability to create what is our own; because we have heard leaders comment

on various occasions that our citizens are ill-conceived because they were conceived by the colonists. Now, Mozambican, there is Magoé, bare and untouched, waiting for some investment!

[30 Nov 84 p 2]

[Text] It dawned calmly that Friday, 12 October. At 0400 hours, when the crowing roosters perched on the colorless branches of the imbondeiros of Deus Boroma (god of Magoé) were heralding daybreak to the world and (with it) the arrival of another harsh, dry day to aggravate the lot of peasants in Magoé (meanwhile) our Land Cruiser was already scaling the ups and downs of the "extremely sharp" peak which, by itself, monopolizes the route between the district headquarters and the historic locality of Mocumbura, very close to the Zimbabwe border.

We had 60 kilometers to cover before we would get a glimpse of Mocumbura. When we had already traveled 35 kilometers of the way we noticed with chagrin that one of the rear tires of our vehicle had allowed a rock splinter to penetrate its inner tube, thus interrupting the journey which had gradually become pleasant. "Disaster!" exclaimed someone.

Half an hour later, the flat tire problem had been solved and the trip continued more speedily than ever. We reached Mocumbura when the Tete sun was starting to hurt our heads. We were received by the administrator of the locality, David Manhacha, whom the district administrator, Joaquim Manuel, invited to continue on with us to the former liberated zones in the southern section of this locality.

David Manhacha, in turn, invited the chief of staff of the FPLM [Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique] in the locality, Bernardo Mandiate. These leaders are young, enthusiastic and replete with information about their area of activity. They have figures on everything; they know how many heads of cattle their locality has, how many plows, how many yokes of oxen and how many are needed to achieve the prosperity of the area's peasants. In short, they are leaders with the drive to direct what has been assigned to them.

From the Mocumbura headquarters we headed in the direction of the liberated zone of Tsatsa. We were riding in a north-south direction and knew that from there it was necessary to cover 58 kilometers to reach our goal. We also knew that, before arriving in Tsatsa, we would stop in the liberated zones of Calue, Dewetewe and Nhambia.

In Dewetewe, we were told that this circular area is, traditionally, a major corn and mapira producer, but at present it has been seriously stricken by famine and its people are emigrating to Zimbabwe in order to earn their livelihood there. Owing to this emigration, there are currently only 70 families residing in Dewetewe, totaling 280 persons. These families are still engaged in cultivating the land, but they are struggling with a lack of seed, hoes and scientific and technical assistance from the entities responsible for applying science to agriculture.

In Dewetewe (and later in Nhambia and Tsatsa), we realized that there were no yokes of oxen, because the livestock that the local population had was decimated, first by the war of national liberation and second, by the war of aggression provoked by Rhodesia against Mozambique. So, livestock is needed for the former liberated zones.

We also stopped in Nhambia, and asked peasant Randzilati Chicanesse to show us the way to the path leading to Tsatsa. But that was difficult, because there is no path from Nhambia to Tsatsa; only small by-paths on which the local peasants travel. And I should say here that we cut our way through the brush to reach Tsatsa.

In Nhambia, we left our pots and pans, products and cooking personnel so that, by 1500 hours, upon returning from Tsatsa, we would have our first meal of that day.

When we showed up in Tsatsa, most of the inhabitants of that area were gathered in the house of the first assistant of the Circle Committee drinking "pombe," a nutritious but intoxicating Kafir beverage made of a mixture of mpira and cornmeal. No one was bothered by our presence (not even by that of the administrator). They all continued drinking in the heat, after having invited us, too, to raise those gourds to our mouths. We enjoyed ourselves greatly!

Then we inquired whether this was some kind of celebration, or whether they were merely drinking out of habit. The answer was resounding:

"We are marking Teacher's Day. Don't you know that today is a national holiday?"

We said that we knew it was Teacher's Day, but that we were unaware that it was a national holiday. Then they added:

"This means that you are out of date. We heard a long time ago that Teacher's Day is a holiday in Mozambique."

Since they were in the majority, we were defeated and promised to ask the ONP [National Teachers Organization] secretary-general whether it was true that Teacher's Day is a national holiday. But, out of mere curiosity, we asked the residents of Tsatsa whether there was any teacher among them. No one was a teacher; furthermore, there is no school in Tsatsa. The nearest school is the one at which we had left our pots and pans, in Nhambia, almost 7 kilometers from Tsatsa. During our stay there, we talked with the only teacher in that area. He holds courses for 45 students in three classes, and his name is Antonio Escova. When we passed through Nhambia, Antonio Escova was skinning a gazelle that he had just caught.

In Tsatsa, Nhambia and Calue, the people told us that they greatly missed the commanders who had led the armed struggle in that area between 1968 and 1974. They all told us that they remembered Comdr Antonio Hama Thai and some of the

secretaries of the local committees claimed to have been sworn in by that leader during the armed struggle for liberation.

The first assistant of the Circle Committee told us, ironically, that "independence stole our leaders, taking them to Maputo; independence did harm here by that, since we no longer have our leaders, and we are lacking everything, including hoes."

This sentiment was voiced by several other peasants residing in those liberated zones. These peasants are former combatants in the struggle for the country's liberation and now, 10 years after that struggle, the former combatants from those areas miss their colleagues with whom they created independence.

From the standpoint of investments, I should say, to tell the truth, that nothing was invested after independence in any of the liberated zones in the locality of Mocumbura. There is very fertile land there, virgin in many instances, but the people have no seed or yokes of oxen, not to mention tractors; because there is only one in the entire district of Magoe. This "one" is not used for agriculture either, because it has no farming attachments (plow). Hence it is used only to haul water to the district headquarters. Therefore, I am entitled to write that there is no tractor in all of Magoe; something which is seriously detrimental to the 4,000 families residing there.

In addition to what I have noted, a sick person in Tsatsa can receive treatment only in the headquarters of the locality of Mocumbura; that is, after having traveled 58 kilometers in the dense jungle. There are no stores in that entire geographical area, not even a consumer cooperative. The people here make baskets, sieves and mats, and go to Zimbabwe to sell them for Zimbabwean dollars or barter them for products of prime necessity to Zimbabwe, primarily salt (since Zimbabwe has no salt mines).

We asked the first assistant of the Tsatsa Circle Committee to sell us some of the sieves that we saw in his house. He refused to sell us these items for meticals, informing us that he would sell only for dollars, or barter for dried fish, because "with meticals, besides there being no store, I have no products to buy," as that official told us.

In Dewetewe, we saw an extensive lowland, a depression favorable for farming during this period of prolonged drought. We witnessed the efforts of the local populace to make use of this lowland; however, the output is meager for the reasons previously cited. With regard to this depression, the administrator of Mocumbura told us that there is an international organization interested in a project aimed at making use of this potential, with a view toward raising the production of grains in the area. But, what we learned and found extremely shocking was the absolute lack of any concrete plan on the part of the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture for this very fertile area.

To conclude this part of the commentary, I would like to report that, in the former liberated zones of Mocumbura, the people continue to exist, despite the difficulties that have been mentioned. And I cite them so that all of

us may solve them; because, otherwise, it would be hypocritical of us in Maputo to claim that we were inspired by the liberated zones, while the liberated zones are looking to Maputo, waiting for some investment that will improve the people's lives and, furthermore, the lives of the people who liberated the people.

[3 Dec 84 p 2]

[Text] On the night of 13 October, after our trip to the former liberated zones of Mossenguezi and Kapati, and to the "international" fish market in Chinhudzi, we held a lengthy talk with David Manhacha, administrator of the locality of Mocumbura, the most heavily populated one in the district of Magoe.

During this conversation, which did not end until after midnight, we gained a complete understanding of the economic and social reality prevailing in that corner of the country. We admit that we began our conversation with a somewhat unenlightening question (although it was progressive, because it dispelled our doubts):

"How many people have died here in Mocumbura from the famine caused by the drought?" we asked bluntly.

"No one here has died of starvation," we were told by David Manhacha, who then asked us for a little quiet so that he might brief us on what has taken place in that locality during the past 12 months.

He began by telling us that the 1983-84 agricultural campaign in that area was nothing great, because of the persistent drought. He reported that, in order to cope with the failure of the aforementioned campaign, the local authorities organized an emergency program whereby the peasants were mobilized to grow second season crops. The population of the liberated zones of Zambeze and Dewetewe were outstanding in fulfilling this program, making use of the local existing lowlands to produce vegetables.

David Manhacha made a point of stressing to us the fact that, despite the lack of work tools and technical information, the peasants of Mocumbura had dug 90 vegetable gardens, in all the settlements, during March of this year.

However, the vegetable gardens and those for other crops dug by the population during that period turned out to be rather meager to prevent the worsening of the famine crisis in the area. So, we asked David Manhacha to explain why there were no fatalities in the locality.

The administrator of Mocumbura declared: "What really prevented human fatalities here in Mocumbura was the fish which the population catch over in the district of Cahora Bassa, and barter here on the border for products of prime necessity, especially salt and flour, with Zimbabwe."

He said: "Over 600 persons per day arrived to gather here in this yard," and went on to say that this had been "a rather sad time, a time when we observed personally our resources leaving right here for Zimbabwe."

He recalled that several injustices and evasions had occurred during the process of bartering livestock for products.

That official added: "A goat was often bartered for only 20 kilograms of flour, and an ox or large cow for two bags of flour."

During the course of the conversation with the administrator of Mocumbura, we were told about the transportation problems encountered for returning to their homes by those who come to the locality's headquarters in large numbers. For example, we learned that the absolute absence of transportation, compounded by the inefficiency of the access routes to that area, causes some people to end up consuming the products procured on the very site of the barter. Because of this situation, a large number of people, victims of famine, have opted to settle permanently in the locality of Mocumbura itself. For this reason, that area has received 125 new families from the locality of Estima, in the district of Cahora Bassa.

Another sector of the population is the one which was unable to return home because of the lack of transportation, and opted to cross the border and become employed as "contract workers" on Zimbabwean farms, in exchange for food.

There are no statistics in Magoe on Zimbabwe. We learned only that "there are many people going to Zimbabwe." However, we found out that the Mozambican population is far removed from finding better living conditions in Zimbabwe, mainly because while as many as 90 vegetable gardens were dug in Mocumbura, the peasants in the "neighboring country" cannot dig their own; they work only for subsistence barter (this is another type of wage-earning labor!).

This difficult situation on the other side of the border has caused much immigration (returning) of Mozambicans who, after an ill-fated venture in search of flour, decide to return to the mother country; even though they are aware that their country is still far from preventing them from dying of starvation.

Since, when they leave, the people do not take their leave through the country's administrative authorities, upon returning they are also afraid to appear before the authorities; and this prevents the latter from finding out how many people have already returned from the other side. The Mocumbura administrator told us in regard to this matter that, as of last September, he had located 124 individuals who returned without appearing before the administrative authorities. He assumes that the number of citizens in those circumstances is far higher than is known to date.

But, while many citizens are attempting to return to the country, because they have reached the conclusion that life "is not easy on the other side

either," there are some in the zone itself who continue climbing over the wire to find out "on the spot" what the subsistence problem is like.

The administrator told us that, at present, the locality's food situation is considered better than during past months. He based his claim on the fact that the district of Mago received sizable amounts of donations sent by certain international organizations last September. In the distribution made on the district level, they supplied the locality of Mocumbura with 38,430 tons of Kalahari corn, 7,800 tons of mapira and 2,574 tons of nhemba beans. Now, the problem is how to take those products to the people who reside in Mossenguezi, for example, who are exactly 78 kilometers away. This problems is currently being posed in Mocumbura because, as David Manhacha remarks, the locality "doesn't even have one bicycle." In fact, we noticed that there was not one car in Mocumbura; and the people who cannot manage to walk from the various parts of the locality to the headquarters run the risk of not receiving their shares.

By way of example, I might mention that, the day before, when we returned from Chinhudzi, we stopped in a village called Doe (nearly 24 kilometers from the headquarters).

As soon as we had stopped, a very old man approached us hastily and, in good Zezulo, addressed the two administrators, whom he asked, bluntly:

"Why is it that you are not sending us any food here?"

The Mocumbura administrator tried to explain the transportation problem, but the explanation did not fill the stomach of the old man; whereupon we took off, with the old man still cursing each and every one.

At the end of our talk with Manhacha, we asked what the situation was like in the zone's health area. He told us in reply that the health center that exists in the locality's headquarters had just undergone a period of "long-standing neglect," during which it was not even receiving aspirin. However, he added, during the past few weeks he had noticed the situation improving.

However, the administrator claimed that the center needs at least one vehicle, a freezer and a preventive medicine agent; because, he said: "With the short supplies at our disposal, it is very difficult to meet the population's needs."

It was past midnight when we concluded our talk with David Manhacha and headed back to the headquarters of Mago district, where, the next morning, we would contact the district administrator, Joaquim Manuel.

2909

CSO: 3442/109

INFORMATION MINISTER ON TIES WITH ITALY

PM181328 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 14 Dec 84 p 8

[Interview with Mozambique Information Minister Jose Luis Cabaco by Marcella Emiliani in Milan; date not given]

[Excerpt] I met with Mozambique Information Minister Jose Luis Cabaco in Milan. It was at the end of a fortnight's visit that took him virtually all around Italy: Following a meeting with political forces in Rome he had meetings with what he called the "local realities" of the north--regional and provincial authorities and committees of solidarity with Mozambique but also volunteer work organizations and training centers. The visit provided further proof of the excellent relations of cooperation between his country and ours. Within this context I could not omit to ask Cabaco whether the killing of the two Italian experts in Mozambique and particular the way in which their bodies were found has not harmed relations of trust between Italy and Mozambique.

His reply was very forthright: "We shoulder our responsibilities in full, but why does nobody mention the role played by Portugal in this affair?" The South African Secret Services and former Portuguese colonials backed by political forces in Lisbon--whose names have been identified in the Portuguese newspapers--have been, and to some extent still are, the main source of aid and political and ideological support for RENAMO, the antigovernment guerrilla movement.

But Italian-Mozambique relations have not grown tense since the killing of our experts, and the Mozambique Liberation Front government much appreciated Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Mario Raffaelli's recent visit to Mozambique to check on the security of our fellow countrymen working on development projects there. "But," Cabaco added, "Raffaelli did more than that: He asserted the Italian Government's desire to strengthen its cooperation ties with Maputo, which at the time constituted an important political gesture."

Cabaco made another important point concerning Italian-Mozambique relations when he stressed several times that these relations are "direct" in order to dispel outright any rumors or misapprehensions on the part of those now keen to enter or invest in Mozambique who believe it is easier or more correct to do so via South Africa following the 16 March signing of the Nkomati accord between Maputo and Pretoria.

CSO: 3428/4

FUNERAL OF PRIEST KILLED BY ARMED BANDITS REPORTED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Nov 84 p 8

[Text] Yesterday, in the city of Xai-Xai, over 5,000 people attended the funeral ceremony for Francisco Samuel, a Mozambican priest of the Franciscan Order, who was assassinated by the armed bandits last Monday.

Present at the rites was the archbishop of Maputo, D. Alexandre dos Santos, as well as representatives of other religious faiths.

The Mozambican priest was murdered in the Maluana area, near Manhica, as he was traveling to the city of Maputo from Xai-Xai.

Wounded on the same occasion was a nun of Mozambican nationality, and three other Mozambicans who, on this occasion, were riding in the vehicle driven by the priest.

A source from the archdiocese of the Catholic Church disclosed that those wounded are confined in the Xai-Xai provincial hospital.

Ordained in 1974, Francisco Samuel, aged 40, was a native of Maxixe, in Inhambane Province. He is the first native priest to be assassinated by the armed bandits, after the latter had physically eliminated three foreign priests.

The first instance occurred during 1981, in Inhambane Province, with the death of the Portuguese priest, Francisco Moraes, aged 54; and, 2 years later, the misfortune came to Alirio Baptista, aged 50 and also Portuguese, in Nampula Province. The third case, nearly 3 months ago, in Zambezia Province, had as a victim the Italian priest, Xavier Torreboli, aged 47, who was machine-gunned and burned inside the vehicle that he had been driving.

2909

CSO: 3442/109

BRIEFS

HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT FROM CHINA--Yesterday afternoon, in Maputo, the ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Wang Hao, delivered a donation consisting of medical and hospital equipment and pharmaceuticals to our country's health minister. This gift was received by the vice-minister of health, Fernando Vaz, and is estimated as worth \$50,000. According to the Chinese ambassador, the materials are intended to facilitate the work of the Chinese physicians working in our country, particularly at the Machava General Hospital and Pemba Provincial Hospital. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 22 Nov 84 p 1] 2909

CSO: 3442/107

BRIEFS

CHINESE BOOK DONATION--An exposition of Chinese art objects and books was held at the Oumarou Ganda Cultural Center for eleven days running, from October 20 - 30. This exposition is a manifestation of the friendly relations between Niger and the People's Republic of China. At the end of the exposition, the Chinese Embassy and the Chinese Foreign Trade Society offered books to different service groups, in particular, the CCOG, which received 1,000 books, the Niger Women's Association, which received 500 to 600 children's books and the Ministry of National Education, which received the same number as the NWA. These books deal with the literature, art and history of China. [Excerpts] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 2, 3, 4 Nov 84 p 2] 9825

EDF DEVELOPMENT FINANCING--The European Community has just decided to furnish 700 million CFA francs to finance a development project in the Air valleys. The project is of interest to farmers involved in the cultivation of cereals and vegetables. Among the activities planned are the digging of wells, establishment of credit lines for agricultural equipment, provision of inputs, and assistance in the organization of cooperatives and marketing. The goal is to provide growers with a more favorable technical and economic environment and to respond to their essential needs. The expected results include an increase in the production of cereals and improved distribution of green vegetables. [Text] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 12, 13, 14 Oct 84 p 5] 9825

USSR BOOK EXPOSITION--As part of the cultural cooperation agreement between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Niger, an exposition of Soviet books was opened Monday in the Oumarou Ganda Cultural Center by the USSR ambassador to Niger, his excellency Kladmir Koudachkine, in the presence of the Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Amadou Djibo. In his presentation speech, Koudachkine declared that the organization of this exposition was not only a testimony to the mutual understanding and growing respect between the USSR and our country, but would also contribute to the deepening and strengthening of the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples. [Excerpt] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 17 Oct 84 p 4] 9825

FRG WATER CONVEYANCE ACCORD--The minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, his excellency Ide Oumarou, and the AI diplomatic aide of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Niger, Dieter Wachter, signed an accord and an arrangement yesterday, October 25, 1984. The accord, for 7 million DM or approximately 1.5 billion CFA francs, is to finance the "Water Conveyance in 5 Secondary Centers" project. This project will aid in the improvement of the drinking water supply in the Tera, Gaya and Madrounfa regions. The arrangement is part of the FRG government's ongoing support of the Republic of Niger's efforts to achieve security in its food supply. In 1984, for example, a gift of 1.25 million DM, or 187.5 CFA francs made it possible to purchase cereals for our people suffering from the drought. [Excerpt] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 26, 27, 28 Oct 84 p 1] 9825

ADB, FRG FUND DRAINAGE PROJECT--According to Director of Urban Planning, Kalla Ankourao, at the Ministry of Public Works and Urban Planning, major improvements in rainwater and sewer drainage (including garbage pick-up) will be made in Niamey city during the 1984-85 fiscal year. These projects, at the cost of a mere 2.7 million CFA francs, will be financed by the African Development Bank (ADB), which will provide 1.920 billion CFA francs, the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), which will furnish 600 million and the state, which will contribute 180 million. ADB and Niger's funds will finance the construction of storm drains in the Abidjan and Route de Filingue districts. Besides these improvements in rainwater drainage, there is also another emergency program, for garbage and sewage disposal, which will be financed by the FRG. [Excerpt] [Niamey LE SAHEL in French 23 Oct 84 p 1] 9825

CSO: 3419/150

CONNECTION WITH VATICAN BANK SCANDAL

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Dec 84 p 4

[Article by Henry Reuter]

[Text]

NAIROBI — A shadowy businessman and former intelligence agent — wanted for questioning about the 1982 fraudulent bankruptcy of Italy's Banco Ambrosiano from which R2 billion disappeared — is holed up in the Seychelles Islands.

He is Mr Francesco Pazienza, a one-time employee of France's super-secret SDECE, who became a prominent Italian financier.

Mr Pazienza disappeared several months ago when Italian authorities issued a warrant for his arrest. He has been on the run ever since and is understood to have appeared at Mahe in the Seychelles in early November.

He is reported to have stayed at the house of an Italian businessman, Mr Mario Ricci, who has close connections with the Seychelles Government.

Sources in the Seychelles say that, on November 7, a party of Italian police flew into the island's international airport in a Lear Jet, questioned Mr Pazienza and later left.

Mr Pazienza is reported to have flown soon afterwards to Praslin Island, another of the Seychelles Group, where he may still be living. It is not clear whether or not he is receiving protection from the Seychelles Government.

Mr Ricci has worked closely with the Seychelles Government since he arrived on Mahe five

years ago. His GMR Group, which also has offices in Italy, New York, Switzerland and Luxembourg, handles tourist publicity and public relations for the Seychelles Government.

He has also acquired property and tea estates on the island and has reportedly sought government sanction to launch a Seychelles Bank and to acquire an island for the development of tourism.

Spokesmen for the Seychelles Resistance Movement, the MPR, which is waging a clandestine struggle against President Rene's Seychelles Government, allege that Mr Ricci was responsible for bugging a London hotel room, resulting in the disclosure, by the London *Sunday Times*, of a 1982 plot to overthrow President Rene's Government with the aid of mercenaries.

They claim that Mr Ricci's associates are still carrying out surveillance of Seychelles dissidents abroad.

It is only in recent months that Mr Pazienza has emerged as a key figure in the Banco Ambrosiano affair which involved the Vatican Bank and scandalised the Pope's trusted financial advisers.

After serving with the SDECE, Mr Pazienza developed a close working relationship with General Giuseppe Santovito, controversial head of the Italian counter-intelligence

agency, SISMI.

The general was a known member of the "Propaganda Two" lodge — an illegal Masonic society which is still under investigation for a long list of suspected crimes, including a plot to topple democracy in Italy and replace it with a right-wing dictatorship.

"Propaganda Two" is also accused of trying to discourage prosecutors from investigating a bomb massacre of 80 people in Zbolona, Northern Italy, and from probing a possible connection with the Masonic society.

Mr Pazienza's name has been linked with intrigues plotted by an inner group within SISMI.

Italian police also link Mr Pazienza with the mysterious death of Banco Ambrosiano chief Mr Roberti Calvi who was found hanged under London's Blackfriars Bridge in June 1982.

It was Mr Pazienza who introduced Sardinian millionaire Mr Flavio Carboni to Mr Calvi and it was Mr Pazienza who benefitted from a generous loan made by Mr Calvi to Mr Carboni shortly before the banker's death.

PROTECTION

Sources in Italy believe that Mr Pazienza may enjoy the protection of the United States administration because of his role in rescuing Nato General James Lee Dozier from his Red Brigades captors two years ago.

Mr Pazienza is also reported to have played a role in obtaining information about Mr Billy Carter's business relations with Libya. This developed into the "Billygate" affair which gravely harmed President Carter's re-election chances.

Mr Pazienza has also had close contacts with former US Secretary of State General Alexander Haig and arranged a meeting in 1981 between the general and Italian Christian Democrat Party secretary Mr Flaminio Piccoli.

IMPORTANCE OF U.S. ELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL POLITICS

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 7 Nov 84 p 15

/Text/ If one watches an important world event of a political nature such as the American presidential election from here on the southern tip of Africa, it is easy to lose one's perspective and to imagine that American voters are terribly concerned about what happens here.

The manner in which leftists oppose it strengthens this impression.

We must not, however, allow ourselves to be misled, because although the average American has strong feelings over our racial policy, South Africa and southern Africa are, after all, very far away.

As South Africans themselves could see in the second television debate over foreign affairs between President Ronald Reagan and his Democratic opponent, Walter Mondale, our own part of the world played a very minor and casual role in the campaign.

Most important for Americans are domestic affairs, followed by foreign issues such as relations with the Soviet Union, the Middle East, and Central America. This does not mean that South Africa does not play a role in American party politics as such. Naturally, we put a lot of importance in the outcome.

Radical leftists such as Rev Jesse Jackson have, all along, manifested an almost fanatical anger, so as to cause unpleasantness for President Reagan over what they label "collusion" with a "racist government," and in order to force the South African question to the center of the campaign.

They were unsuccessful in this, but one should not underestimate such attempts.

South Africans can now be prepared for Democratic policies such as those of Rev Jackson and Mr Stephen Solarz and Harold Volpe (the latter two are members of the House of Representatives), which will launch a sustained campaign against South Africa in order to attack us in all areas: diplomatic, economic, cultural, military, etc.--to isolate us and boycott us.

They think South Africa is a good way to complicate matters for the Reagan administration.

Some Democratic members of the House of Representatives have already announced that early in the new year they will deny landing rights to South African Airways.

It is precisely for this reason that the results of the elections for the House, and for a third of the seats in the Senate, are so important, because if the Democrats win, which is unlikely, and they broaden their majority in the House and Senate, South Africa and those who have its interests at heart are going to have a hard time preventing all sorts of boycott measures.

And don't underestimate the keen campaign of municipalities, churches and universities to withdraw their financial support from companies investing in South Africa.

On their part President Reagan and his supporters will pursue with anticipation their policy of constructive involvement in all of South Africa. It is not that they love South Africa so much or that they agree with its racial policies.

In various speeches delivered in recent months, American Government leaders have expressed their country's position frankly. A recurrent theme in their speeches is that they see the situation in South Africa and Southern Africa in the light of the broad, international power struggle between East and West.

To hinder the Soviet Union, stability in Southern Africa is necessary, and "apartheid" stands, according to them, in the way of stability. But they do not want to sit on the fence and yell, like the radicals do; they believe much more can be achieved through constructive means, and a dialog carried on with all concerned parties.

In the American political framework it can be hazardous undertaking, since the caucus arrangement in that country is much looser than it is in South Africa. The government must sometimes take great pains to persuade its own people in Congress not to support Democratic boycott plans.

For South Africa the Reagan policy is infinitely better than the rigid, ideological rhetoric and backbiting of the leftists. It creates the opportunity for him to advance causes he espouses through a purposeful policy of reform--not to comply with the wishes of the Americans, but because it is in the best interests of the nation.

How South Africa will cope with its affairs from now on will determine the lengths to which the Reagan administration will go to help avert the worst attacks against us. But know this: if the radicals in Washington get their way, they will not rest until they have done everything in their power to hurt South Africa as much as possible. They will seize every opportunity to do this.

12494

CSO: 3401/45

SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKANERS OPPOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH VATICAN

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 14 Nov 84 p 14

[Article in "Word and World" section, signed "Theologian": "Roman Politics"]

[Text] On October 31 Protestant churches celebrated the anniversary of the Reformation, namely, the anniversary of Luther's demonstration in 1517 by which the Reformation was openly launched.

Nowadays it is often claimed that the Roman Church has altogether changed since that time and that it no longer poses any danger to us. In its latest issue, the PROTESTANT REVEILLE included an article of which we should take serious note. In view of the importance of this article, we quote the following from it:

"It is not generally known, but the Vatican also made serious attempts to establish diplomatic relations with South Africa. But Dr D. F. Malan, Prime Minister at the time, was too honorable a man to allow that the significant Protestant tradition of our country be risked in such a way.

But times change. Without a doubt, Rome would still like to gain a diplomatic victory by placing a papal ambassador in Pretoria. Will the current government be as resolute in this matter as Dr Malan? As recently as 1979 THE SOUTH AFRICAN DIGEST, published by the Department of Information, contained an article which suggested exchanging diplomatic representatives between the Vatican and South Africa. It is worth noting that this article did not appear in DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE ORSIG.

The minister of foreign affairs visited the Vatican in 1977. The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, also made a visit in June--the first South African prime minister to do so. The South African press immediately speculated the pope would receive an official invitation to visit South Africa.

Rome has a goal in establishing diplomatic relations with a given state: the promotion of the interests and status of the Roman Catholic Church over and above those of any other church. This process is an integral part of the papal claim to supremacy over the entire church of God--a claim which Pope John Paul emphasized carefully once again during his recent visit to the headquarters of the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

Another important consideration is that those churches now involved in negotiations aimed at reunification with Rome do not see Rome's dual status as both a nation and a church as a matter of dispute. It appears as though they have accepted it without reflection. And, in what is reminiscent of the medieval papacy, the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches is restrained in asserting its authority when it attempts to dictate to secular governments on matters falling within their own governmental authority, or to dictate to bankers where they must or must not invest their money, and when it invests its own money in Marxist terrorism."

12620

C30: 3401/48

SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKANER PAPER OPTIMISTIC ABOUT SOLUTION TO ANGOLA SITUATION

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 21 Nov 84 p 17

[Article by DIE BURGER's political editorial staff: "South Africa, Angola may be in Agreement Soon"]

[Text] Pretoria--Discussions aimed at achieving an agreement on the final withdrawal of South African soldiers from Angola will probably be held soon between South Africa and Angola at the ministerial level.

Such deliberations are not envisaged after a meeting held yesterday by the Joint Monitoring Committee [Gesamt Monitorkommissie (GMK)] at N'Giva in Sough Angola.

SAPA-REUTER reports from Havana that Cuba said yesterday it will support a peace agreement in South Africa which includes the withdrawal of Cuban and South African soldiers from the south of Angola as well as the independence of Southwest.

Mr Jorge Bolanos, deputy minister of foreign affairs, told foreign newsmen that Cuba supports the proposals of the Angolan president, Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, for a negotiated settlement.

Senior diplomats who are encouraged by the Southwest settlement plan said yesterday that the meeting envisaged will deal more with the Lusaka agreement than the question of the Cuban withdrawal.

Headquarters

The discussions expected as a result of the Lusaka agreement are part of the total diplomatic process surrounding the Southwest settlement plan and the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola.

According to a statement issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday, the GMK met yesterday at its current headquarters in N'Giva. South Africa was represented by General Jannie Geldenhuys, head of the army, and Angola was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Ngongo Montiero, deputy chief of staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, the Angolan armed forces.

It was decided that a ministerial meeting between South Africa and Angola would be held as soon as possible to set a final date for the 1st transfer of the GMK's headquarters from N'Giva to Oshikango, on the border between Southwest and Angola.

The intended discussions will also have to include the achievement of an agreement guaranteeing peace and stability along Southwest's border with Angola once the GMK has terminated its activities.

The GMK also decided that technical experts from Angola and Southwest should meet as soon as possible in order to discuss matters concerning the Ruacana-Calueque water project.

SAPA-REUTER reported from Havana that the Cuban government is prepared to conclude a "four-party agreement" between South Africa, Cuba, SWAPO and Angola concerning the withdrawal of the Cuban soldiers.

UNITA

According to a report in GRANMA, the organ of Cuba's Communist Party, the agreement will rest upon the proposals made by President Dos Santos of Angola for a Cuban withdrawal. The paper emphasized that the Cuban withdrawal from Angola will begin only after the number of South African soldiers in Southwest has been reduced to 1,500.

The proposals do not imply that all of the Cuban soldiers will withdraw from Angola. According to the report, the Cubans will only return home once South Africa's soldiers have withdrawn from South Angola, if all assistance from the Angolan resistance movement UNITA has ceased, if all UNITA bases in Angola are disbanded, and if UN Resolution 435 concerning independence for Southwest is enacted without delay.

12620

CSO: 3401/48

SOUTH AFRICA

REPORTAGE OF ANTI-APARTHEID PROTESTS IN U.S.

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 23 Nov 84 p 1

/Text/ Washington--The occupation of the South African embassy in Washington, yesterday was just the beginning of a countrywide campaign against the South African Government in the United States.

This is what Randolph Robinson said yesterday. He is one of three black civil rights leaders who appeared before the Washington High Court yesterday in connection with the occupation.

Their actions were aimed at drawing the world's attention to the actions of the world's "most vicious government." This is what he told to a crowd of TV and newspapermen outside the court building. He added that more details would be made known today at a press conference with respect to a campaign "which will increase in intensity."

He pointed to the effort made the day before in also occupying the South African consulate in Los Angeles and said that actions of this sort are also "being considered in other U.S. cities."

South Africa has other consulates in New York, Houston, New Orleans and Chicago.

Crammed

Mr Walter Fauntroy, an elected delegate of Washington's City Council in the House of Representatives, and Miss Mary Frances Berry, member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, were indicted yesterday along with Mr. Robinson.

The court was crammed with people when they were brought to court at 1:41 pm. They were indicted on charges of illegal trespass on embassy grounds. The maximum penalty is a fine of U.S. \$1,000 (1,785 rands) or 12 months in jail.

No hearings have yet been held and the case has been postponed to 20 December. Those indicted may not set foot in the building or grounds of the South African embassy, but they can be in the street in front of the embassy.

They have been set free on their own recognizance.

The three persons spent last night in jail after on Wednesday afternoon they were were taken away from the South African embassy with their hands bound behind their backs.

Late

Yesterday was Thanksgiving Day in the United States; this being a day when families get together to eat the traditional meal with turkey as the main dish. This is a day which many Americans consider more important than Christmas as far as the getting together of families is concerned.

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7964
CSO: 3401/49

VOW TO DISMANTLE APARTHEID NECESSARY

MB170902 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 16 Dec 84 p 18

[Article by Sampie Terreblanche, professor of economics, Stellenbosch University]

[Text] Apartheid has become one of the worst words of our time--a symbol of something which is totally unacceptable, and seemingly also indefensible.

We are living in a world that has shrunk to a "global village," a world dominated by the mass media in which symbols and images are of decisive importance.

As a symbol, apartheid has acquired a meaning that can clearly no longer be reconciled with the values and attitudes of the Western world at the end of the 20th century. It symbolises something that goes against the grain of the current trend of history.

Apartheid, as it exists in South Africa, has many negative and deplorable dimensions. But the image projected by the symbol is far worse. We can fight this image, but in the end we cannot do much about it.

Attempts to call apartheid by other names have failed. Attempts to give it a more humane face are commendable. But at the end of the day it is still apartheid ... and for moral and other reasons it is not acceptable any more.

As long as we are still committed to apartheid as such, our chances of offering successful resistance to the well-orchestrated anti-South African campaign are very slim.

Until we become committed to the total dismantling of apartheid, our options are rather limited.

--We may plead for an appreciation of our unique situation. Our conditions are indeed unique, and not comparable to any other country in the world.

--We can try to explain that one or another kind of apartheid system is, for the time being, the only way to organise social, economic and political life in a civilised and orderly way in a country where a quarter of the population are First World people and three-quarters are Third World people.

Given the small size of the modern sector, and its small tax capacity, we cannot at this stage afford to fully democratise our political and economic life.

--We can blame the rest of the world for its hypocrisy and its double standards. We can try to highlight discrimination and structural injustice in every other country of the world.

The existence of discriminatory practices is, however, one thing. The legal sanction which they enjoy under the apartheid system is quite another.

That, in a nutshell, explains the strong opposition of the rest of the world.

--We can accuse rich countries that they practice a form of "territorial apartheid" behind the protective "boundaries" of the nation-state idea.

We can argue that the international system discriminates in an inhumane way against the peoples of the poor countries.

But, although the nation-state idea may in due course come under the same kind of pressure as apartheid, that time is not yet.

All these arguments are relevant in putting the case of South Africa. But they provide little scope for counteracting the negative symbolic meaning projected by apartheid.

In fact, against that extremely negative symbol they just do not wash.

But if apartheid has become such an impediment, why do we not abolish it without further ado? Unfortunately, that is not possible.

Anyone who is politically naive and economically foolish enough to think that apartheid can be abolished overnight underestimates the devastating consequences.

Apartheid is not simply a policy. It is also part and parcel of the South African pattern of life--socially, economically and politically.

This pattern was structured in the 19th century, since when it has been systematically enlarged, legalised and adapted.

It has become the very foundation of the structure of South Africa. Consequently, it cannot be demolished in a short period of time without serious disruptive effects.

As a social structure, apartheid can be compared with the Old Order in France before the French Revolution.

During the revolution an attempt was made to abolish the Ancient Regime in one night.

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But the night of 4/5 August 1979, witnessed the commitment to greater social equality and mobility, and to the acknowledgement of human rights.

As an economic structure, apartheid can be compared with High Capitalism in the 19th century.

Interesting parallels exist between the privileged and protected position of the whites in South Africa and the bourgeoisie in the 19th century.

Since the beginning of this century, all the governments of the West have committed themselves towards greater economic equality and justice. No country tried to attain this overnight.

Although we see the gradual growth of the welfare state in capitalist countries real equality and justice have not yet materialised...but there is progress.

What we urgently need is a comparable commitment towards the total dismantling of apartheid.

What we need is a declaration of intent from the government that will state in unequivocal terms that its ultimate aims are to dismantle apartheid peacefully, to get rid of all forms of discrimination, to work towards full human and civil rights for everybody, and to create structures of equal and relevant political participation for everyone.

As part of such a declaration the government can also state that progress towards such goals cannot be simple, linear or short-term.

It cannot proceed at a pace that will cause disruption and endanger civilised standards.

It will have to move through several phases before the ultimate goal can be reached. Rome was not built in a day.

Such a declaration of intent will clearly have disadvantages, but it will hopefully have greater advantages and will create great opportunities.

It may, unfortunately, lead to increased radicalism on the left and on the right.

In the case of the former, it will in all probability quicken the spiral of rising expectations, create unreasonable demands, and consequently create a greater degree of instability.

In the case of the latter it may cause disruptive resistance politics.

The government must be realistic enough to realise that no solution to the South African situation can possibly satisfy all parties. We must look for the most acceptable common denominator.

In order to achieve this by negotiation, the maintenance of law and order is a non-negotiable prerequisite.

Unfortunately, there will also be attempts to discredit such a declaration as a trick to play for time and to bluff the world.

It will be stigmatised as a symbolic gesture and as an alternative to real reform.

It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the government should prove the credibility of its commitment to real reform to critics both here and abroad.

To this end, the abolition or drastic revision of as many discriminatory laws as possible is an urgent prerequisite.

Such a step would not only prove the credibility of the Nationalist Government, but also of the coloured and Indian partners in the new tricameral parliament.

On the other hand, the potential internal and external advantages of such a declaration must not be underestimated.

It can prove to be of enormous symbolic value.

It can be moral liberation for many South Africans who experience apartheid as a bondage.

It can create a new hope and enthusiasm for the future.

It can command great foreign support for South Africa.

As the embodiment of a common long-term goal, such a declaration can prove to be the symbol that will unite all moderate people. This can give a new meaning to our common destiny.

A common commitment, to operate as a magnetic centre, is urgently needed in a country experiencing centrifugal forces.

If such a declaration can be made, it may also be the beginning of the end of our ideological quibbles.

Then we can start to debate its practical implementation, the strategies needed, and the timespan necessary to accomplish our goals.

The rate of the dismantling of apartheid will be determined in a decisive way by four crucial factors:

--The growth of the black population--it tends to be far too high.

--The willingness of the whites to make the necessary sacrifices--it is far too small.

--The amount spent on black education--it is still at too low a level.

None of these factors can be easily manipulated for policy purposes. Consequently, the road towards the total dismantling of apartheid is going to be a long and difficult one.

The sooner we start, the better.

CSO: 3400/350

THREE MEDICAL CENTERS TO BE BUILT FOR BLACKS, COLOREDS

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 8 Nov 84 p 5

/Text/ Three large, modern health centers will be built in the next 2 years at an estimated cost of 8.5 million rands in Mitchell's Plain, Khayelitsha, and in the black residential area of Motherwell near Uitenhage in East Cape Province.

Mr Chris April, minister of Health Services and Welfare in the Council of Representatives made this announcement yesterday and said that it will provide a service to more than 200,000 people.

Mr April said he and members of the Cape Province Administration deliberated with certain Cabinet members, after which the money was made available.

He was delighted yesterday with the means granted for this addition of medical services, and said the health centers will fulfill a great need.

The health center for Mitchell's Plain will be built at a cost of 2.3 million rands and will serve 80,000 persons. The lot site has not yet been determined, but a couple of lots are under consideration. All the centers will be equipped with dental offices and maternity accommodations.

Mr April said Mitchell's Plain, with its approximately 178,000 inhabitants, gets dental services from only three clinics, each of which serves 5,000 persons. These clinics are in Lentegur, Beacon Valley, and Tafelsig.

"We see inclusive services in Mitchell's Plain as a matter of urgency.

"Mitchell's Plain's satellite ambulance service is operated at tremendous expense, which could be better spent on a health center," Mr April said.

The estimated costs of the other two health centers in Khayelitsha and Motherwell, which will serve 60,000 persons apiece, is 2 million and 1.5 million rands respectively.

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CSO: 3401/45

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

LOCAL COUNTRIES DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE--Pretoria--A total of 36 ministers from South Africa, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei (SATBVC-countries) met yesterday here in the Union Building for the first session of the multilateral Development Council of Ministers. According to a statement of the interim secretariat of the council the main theme of the talks was collaboration and development in southern Africa. All the representatives of these countries reconfirmed their willingness to collaborate on a multilateral basis. The council took cognizance of Ciskei's recent announcement that there would be no increase in taxes in that country. However, a decision was reached for resolving the matter at a multilateral level before submitting it to the council. This decision was taken because Ciskei's action entails implications for the other SATBVC countries which have undertaken a joint incentive plan for industrial development. Yesterday's session represents the high point of 140 multilateral, 32 district and 35 bilateral meetings this year. According to the statement, in just 2 years the multilateral system has grown into an advisory mechanism which takes in all governmental disciplines. /Text/ /Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 24 Nov 84 p 9/ 7964

IMPROVEMENT IN CANADIAN ATTITUDES--The speech on South Africa, given in the General Assembly by the Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, points to a positive change in disposition toward South Africa. Although Canada continues to condemn South Africa's "apartheid policy" in the strongest terms, yesterday the ambassador not only expressed the view that South Africa ought to have the right to take part in the activities of the world organization, but he also rejected the thoughts of total isolation of South Africa and economic sanctions against it. Under the liberal government, which was decidedly defeated by the Conservative Party in the election of 4 September, Canada was one of the countries which often took the lead in advocating stronger measures against South Africa. It would appear that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is getting along better with the new Canadian Government than was the case with the previous government. Now with Canada's new approach the government of Mr Brian Mulroney is joining up with its big neighbor's policy of constructive involvement in South Africa. Perhaps the fruits

of U.S. involvement and South Africa's reform efforts and peace initiatives have contributed much to this. Despite the historic ties between the two countries, for many years Canada has been inimically disposed toward South Africa. Therefore the new sounds coming from Canada must be welcomed and hopefully this is a modest beginning of a revival of former better relations. /Text/ /Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 22 Nov 84 p 12/ 7964

CSO: 3401/49

BRIEFS

COOPERATION PACT WITH ITALY--ZIMBABWE and Italy yesterday signed a three-year programme of co-operation involving \$78,3 million. The Deputy Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Cde Moton Malianga, who signed for Zimbabwe, said Italy had shown understanding about the country's economic situation by giving \$22,8 million out of the total as grant aid and the rest as soft loans. Zimbabwe's debt burden was running at 32 percent and indications were that it would continue to rise for some time. The agreement would help reduce the debt burden through a \$14 million commodity import programme for industrial inputs. The grant aid would, among other things, go towards the Bondi irrigation scheme, a medium-size dam project for the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Development, the training of engineers in low-cost road design, recruitment of expatriate engineers for the Ministry of Transport and rural health services. The \$55 million soft loan would go towards the construction of the Mazwikadei Dam, the supply of equipment to the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation and on a commodity import programme. The Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Mario Raffaelli, who led his country's delegation to the three days of talks that preceded the agreement, noted that the projects selected for the programme were relevant to Zimbabwe's development. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 p 1]

SAUDI EXPORT LINK RAISED--THE Saudi Arabian company, Kingdom's Establishment, could help open up a new export outlet for Zimbabwean products in the vast Middle East market following the visit to Zimbabwe last week by Saudi Prince Al Waleed Abdulaziz Alsaud. At a briefing session for the Prince at ZNCC headquarters last week, his legal adviser and co-ordinator for African investment, Mr Faissal Fahad, said the Prince met the private sector to look at export opportunities. "We are especially interested in your high quality furniture, agricultural products, cattle, sheep and other products to sell not only in Saudi Arabia, but to other areas in the Middle East." Mr Fahad said the Prince was also interested in establishing joint business ventures and had held talks with several government officials and business people. Business contacts should not be limited to export alone, he said. The Prince would also study Zimbabwe's transportation problems, the adviser said. The ZNCC deputy president, Mr Jim Cameron-Dow, said the ZNCC was planning to send a trade mission to Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries on an exploratory trip next year. The Middle East was an area with a good market, he said, and his organisation was looking at the problem of transportation. "We are holding discussions with a number of shipping agencies to use continually the port of Beira which has improved during the last 12 months." [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 "Business Herald" Supplement p 1]

POSSIBLE BULGARIAN JOINT VENTURES--A NUMBER of possible joint ventures were discussed between Zimbabwean and Bulgarian companies at the Bulgarian industrial exhibition which ended on Tuesday and these will be followed up by the individual partners, the director of the pavilion, Cde Peter Ivanov, said this week. Cde Ivanov said local companies showed considerable interest in computer equipment, hoists, electrical instruments and models of production enterprises. "They were particularly impressed by the brick production line which is capable of producing 130 to 150 million bricks per year, and we concluded that it is needed here. They were also interested in our cooling warehouses." The exhibition was a success in the sense that Bulgaria was able to show its industrial potential, he said, and there was an exchange of ideas and information between specialists from this country and Bulgaria. The exhibition featured eight foreign trade enterprises showing scale models of production lines, telecommunications equipment, industrial machinery, computers and household appliances. [Excerpt] [Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 "Business Herald" Supplement p 1]

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SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKANERS OPPOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH VATICAN

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 14 Nov 84 p 14

[Article in "Word and World" section, signed "Theologian": "Roman Politics"]

[Text] On October 31 Protestant churches celebrated the anniversary of the Reformation, namely, the anniversary of Luther's demonstration in 1517 by which the Reformation was openly launched.

Nowadays it is often claimed that the Roman Church has altogether changed since that time and that it no longer poses any danger to us. In its latest issue, the PROTESTANT REVEILLE included an article of which we should take serious note. In view of the importance of this article, we quote the following from it:

"It is not generally known, but the Vatican also made serious attempts to establish diplomatic relations with South Africa. But Dr D. F. Malan, Prime Minister at the time, was too honorable a man to allow that the significant Protestant tradition of our country be risked in such a way.

But times change. Without a doubt, Rome would still like to gain a diplomatic victory by placing a papal ambassador in Pretoria. Will the current government be as resolute in this matter as Dr Malan? As recently as 1979 THE SOUTH AFRICAN DIGEST, published by the Department of Information, contained an article which suggested exchanging diplomatic representatives between the Vatican and South Africa. It is worth noting that this article did not appear in DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE ORSIG.

The minister of foreign affairs visited the Vatican in 1977. The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, also made a visit in June--the first South African prime minister to do so. The South African press immediately speculated the pope would receive an official invitation to visit South Africa.

Rome has a goal in establishing diplomatic relations with a given state: the promotion of the interests and status of the Roman Catholic Church over and above those of any other church. This process is an integral part of the papal claim to supremacy over the entire church of God--a claim which Pope John Paul emphasized carefully once again during his recent visit to the headquarters of the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

Another important consideration is that those churches now involved in negotiations aimed at reunification with Rome do not see Rome's dual status as both a nation and a church as a matter of dispute. It appears as though they have accepted it without reflection. And, in what is reminiscent of the medieval papacy, the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches is restrained in asserting its authority when it attempts to dictate to secular governments on matters falling within their own governmental authority, or to dictate to bankers where they must or must not invest their money, and when it invests its own money in Marxist terrorism."

12620

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SOUTH AFRICA

AFRIKANER PAPER OPTIMISTIC ABOUT SOLUTION TO ANGOLA SITUATION

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 21 Nov 84 p 17

[Article by DIE BURGER's political editorial staff: "South Africa, Angola may be in Agreement Soon"]

[Text] Pretoria--Discussions aimed at achieving an agreement on the final withdrawal of South African soldiers from Angola will probably be held soon between South Africa and Angola at the ministerial level.

Such deliberations are not envisaged after a meeting held yesterday by the Joint Monitoring Committee [Gesamt Monitorkommissie (GMK)] at N'Giva in Sough Angola.

SAPA-REUTER reports from Havana that Cuba said yesterday it will support a peace agreement in South Africa which includes the withdrawal of Cuban and South African soldiers from the south of Angola as well as the independence of Southwest.

Mr Jorge Bolanos, deputy minister of foreign affairs, told foreign newsmen that Cuba supports the proposals of the Angolan president, Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, for a negotiated settlement.

Senior diplomats who are encouraged by the Southwest settlement plan said yesterday that the meeting envisaged will deal more with the Lusaka agreement than the question of the Cuban withdrawal.

Headquarters

The discussions expected as a result of the Lusaka agreement are part of the total diplomatic process surrounding the Southwest settlement plan and the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola.

According to a statement issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday, the GMK met yesterday at its current headquarters in N'Giva. South Africa was represented by General Jannie Geldenhuys, head of the army, and Angola was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Ngongo Montiero, deputy chief of staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, the Angolan armed forces.

It was decided that a ministerial meeting between South Africa and Angola would be held as soon as possible to set a final date for the 1st transfer of the GMK's headquarters from N'Giva to Oshikango, on the border between Southwest and Angola.

The intended discussions will also have to include the achievement of an agreement guaranteeing peace and stability along Southwest's border with Angola once the GMK has terminated its activities.

The GMK also decided that technical experts from Angola and Southwest should meet as soon as possible in order to discuss matters concerning the Ruacana-Calueque water project.

SAPA-REUTER reported from Havana that the Cuban government is prepared to conclude a "four-party agreement" between South Africa, Cuba, SWAPO and Angola concerning the withdrawal of the Cuban soldiers.

UNITA

According to a report in GRANMA, the organ of Cuba's Communist Party, the agreement will rest upon the proposals made by President Dos Santos of Angola for a Cuban withdrawal. The paper emphasized that the Cuban withdrawal from Angola will begin only after the number of South African soldiers in Southwest has been reduced to 1,500.

The proposals do not imply that all of the Cuban soldiers will withdraw from Angola. According to the report, the Cubans will only return home once South Africa's soldiers have withdrawn from South Angola, if all assistance from the Angolan resistance movement UNITA has ceased, if all UNITA bases in Angola are disbanded, and if UN Resolution 435 concerning independence for Southwest is enacted without delay.

12620

CSO: 3401/48

SOUTH AFRICA

REPORTAGE OF ANTI-APARTHEID PROTESTS IN U.S.

Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 23 Nov 84 p 1

/Text/ Washington--The occupation of the South African embassy in Washington, yesterday was just the beginning of a countrywide campaign against the South African Government in the United States.

This is what Randolph Robinson said yesterday. He is one of three black civil rights leaders who appeared before the Washington High Court yesterday in connection with the occupation.

Their actions were aimed at drawing the world's attention to the actions of the world's "most vicious government." This is what he told to a crowd of TV and newspapermen outside the court building. He added that more details would be made known today at a press conference with respect to a campaign "which will increase in intensity."

He pointed to the effort made the day before in also occupying the South African consulate in Los Angeles and said that actions of this sort are also "being considered in other U.S. cities."

South Africa has other consulates in New York, Houston, New Orleans and Chicago.

Crammed

Mr Walter Fauntroy, an elected delegate of Washington's City Council in the House of Representatives, and Miss Mary Frances Berry, member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, were indicted yesterday along with Mr. Robinson.

The court was crammed with people when they were brought to court at 1:41 pm. They were indicted on charges of illegal trespass on embassy grounds. The maximum penalty is a fine of U.S. \$1,000 (1,785 rands) or 12 months in jail.

No hearings have yet been held and the case has been postponed to 20 December. Those indicted may not set foot in the building or grounds of the South African embassy, but they can be in the street in front of the embassy.

They have been set free on their own recognizance.

The three persons spent last night in jail after on Wednesday afternoon they were were taken away from the South African embassy with their hands bound behind their backs.

Late

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Attempts to call apartheid by other names have failed. Attempts to give it a more humane face are commendable. But at the end of the day it is still apartheid ... and for moral and other reasons it is not acceptable any more.

As long as we are still committed to apartheid as such, our chances of offering successful resistance to the well-orchestrated anti-South African campaign are very slim.

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--We can try to explain that one or another kind of apartheid system is, for the time being, the only way to organise social, economic and political life in a civilised and orderly way in a country where a quarter of the population are First World people and three-quarters are Third World people.

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What we need is a declaration of intent from the government that will state in unequivocal terms that its ultimate aims are to dismantle apartheid peacefully, to get rid of all forms of discrimination, to work towards full human and civil rights for everybody, and to create structures of equal and relevant political participation for everyone.

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In the case of the latter it may cause disruptive resistance politics.

The government must be realistic enough to realise that no solution to the South African situation can possibly satisfy all parties. We must look for the most acceptable common denominator.

In order to achieve this by negotiation, the maintenance of law and order is a non-negotiable prerequisite.

Unfortunately, there will also be attempts to discredit such a declaration as a trick to play for time and to bluff the world.

It will be stigmatised as a symbolic gesture and as an alternative to real reform.

It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the government should prove the credibility of its commitment to real reform to critics both here and abroad.

To this end, the abolition or drastic revision of as many discriminatory laws as possible is an urgent prerequisite.

Such a step would not only prove the credibility of the Nationalist Government, but also of the coloured and Indian partners in the new tricameral parliament.

On the other hand, the potential internal and external advantages of such a declaration must not be underestimated.

It can prove to be of enormous symbolic value.

It can be moral liberation for many South Africans who experience apartheid as a bondage.

It can create a new hope and enthusiasm for the future.

It can command great foreign support for South Africa.

As the embodiment of a common long-term goal, such a declaration can prove to be the symbol that will unite all moderate people. This can give a new meaning to our common destiny.

A common commitment, to operate as a magnetic centre, is urgently needed in a country experiencing centrifugal forces.

If such a declaration can be made, it may also be the beginning of the end of our ideological quibbles.

Then we can start to debate its practical implementation, the strategies needed, and the timespan necessary to accomplish our goals.

The rate of the dismantling of apartheid will be determined in a decisive way by four crucial factors:

--The growth of the black population--it tends to be far too high.

--The willingness of the whites to make the necessary sacrifices--it is far too small.

--The amount spent on black education--it is still at too low a level.

None of these factors can be easily manipulated for policy purposes. Consequently, the road towards the total dismantling of apartheid is going to be a long and difficult one.

The sooner we start, the better.

CSO: 3400/350

THREE MEDICAL CENTERS TO BE BUILT FOR BLACKS, COLOREDS

Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 8 Nov 84 p 5

/Text/ Three large, modern health centers will be built in the next 2 years at an estimated cost of 8.5 million rands in Mitchell's Plain, Khayelitsha, and in the black residential area of Motherwell near Uitenhage in East Cape Province.

Mr Chris April, minister of Health Services and Welfare in the Council of Representatives made this announcement yesterday and said that it will provide a service to more than 200,000 people.

Mr April said he and members of the Cape Province Administration deliberated with certain Cabinet members, after which the money was made available.

He was delighted yesterday with the means granted for this addition of medical services, and said the health centers will fulfill a great need.

The health center for Mitchell's Plain will be built at a cost of 2.3 million rands and will serve 80,000 persons. The lot site has not yet been determined, but a couple of lots are under consideration. All the centers will be equipped with dental offices and maternity accommodations.

Mr April said : Mitchell's Plain, with its approximately 178,000 inhabitants, gets dental services from only three clinics, each of which serves 5,000 persons. These clinics are in Lentegeur, Beacon Valley, and Tafelsig.

"We see inclusive services in Mitchell's Plain as a matter of urgency.

"Mitchell's Plain's satellite ambulance service is operated at tremendous expense, which could be better spent on a health center," Mr April said.

The estimated costs of the other two health centers in Khayelitsha and Motherwell, which will serve 60,000 persons apiece, is 2 million and 1.5 million rands respectively.

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SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

LOCAL COUNTRIES DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE--Pretoria--A total of 36 ministers from South Africa, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei (SATBVC-countries) met yesterday here in the Union Building for the first session of the multilateral Development Council of Ministers. According to a statement of the interim secretariat of the council the main theme of the talks was collaboration and development in southern Africa. All the representatives of these countries reconfirmed their willingness to collaborate on a multilateral basis. The council took cognizance of Ciskei's recent announcement that there would be no increase in taxes in that country. However, a decision was reached for resolving the matter at a multilateral level before submitting it to the council. This decision was taken because Ciskei's action entails implications for the other SATBVC countries which have undertaken a joint incentive plan for industrial development. Yesterday's session represents the high point of 140 multilateral, 32 district and 35 bilateral meetings this year. According to the statement, in just 2 years the multilateral system has grown into an advisory mechanism which takes in all governmental disciplines. /Text/ /Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 24 Nov 84 p 9/ 7964

IMPROVEMENT IN CANADIAN ATTITUDES--The speech on South Africa, given in the General Assembly by the Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, points to a positive change in disposition toward South Africa. Although Canada continues to condemn South Africa's "apartheid policy" in the strongest terms, yesterday the ambassador not only expressed the view that South Africa ought to have the right to take part in the activities of the world organization, but he also rejected the thoughts of total isolation of South Africa and economic sanctions against it. Under the liberal government, which was decidedly defeated by the Conservative Party in the election of 4 September, Canada was one of the countries which often took the lead in advocating stronger measures against South Africa. It would appear that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is getting along better with the new Canadian Government than was the case with the previous government. Now with Canada's new approach the government of Mr Brian Mulroney is joining up with its big neighbor's policy of constructive involvement in South Africa. Perhaps the fruits

of U.S. involvement and South Africa's reform efforts and peace initiatives have contributed much to this. Despite the historic ties between the two countries, for many years Canada has been inimically disposed toward South Africa. Therefore the new sounds coming from Canada must be welcomed and hopefully this is a modest beginning of a revival of former better relations. /Text/ /Capetown DIE BURGER in Afrikaans 22 Nov 84 p 12/ 7964

CSO: 3401/49

BRIEFS

COOPERATION PACT WITH ITALY--ZIMBABWE and Italy yesterday signed a three-year programme of co-operation involving \$78,3 million. The Deputy Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Cde Moton Malianga, who signed for Zimbabwe, said Italy had shown understanding about the country's economic situation by giving \$22,8 million out of the total as grant aid and the rest as soft loans. Zimbabwe's debt burden was running at 32 percent and indications were that it would continue to rise for some time. The agreement would help reduce the debt burden through a \$14 million commodity import programme for industrial inputs. The grant aid would, among other things, go towards the Bondi irrigation scheme, a medium-size dam project for the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Development, the training of engineers in low-cost road design, recruitment of expatriate engineers for the Ministry of Transport and rural health services. The \$55 million soft loan would go towards the construction of the Mazwikadei Dam, the supply of equipment to the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation and on a commodity import programme. The Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Mario Raffaelli, who led his country's delegation to the three days of talks that preceded the agreement, noted that the projects selected for the programme were relevant to Zimbabwe's development. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 p 1]

SAUDI EXPORT LINK RAISED--THE Saudi Arabian company, Kingdom's Establishment, could help open up a new export outlet for Zimbabwean products in the vast Middle East market following the visit to Zimbabwe last week by Saudi Prince Al Waleed Abdulaziz Alsaud. At a briefing session for the Prince at ZNCC headquarters last week, his legal adviser and co-ordinator for African investment, Mr Faissal Fahad, said the Prince met the private sector to look at export opportunities. "We are especially interested in your high quality furniture, agricultural products, cattle, sheep and other products to sell not only in Saudi Arabia, but to other areas in the Middle East." Mr Fahad said the Prince was also interested in establishing joint business ventures and had held talks with several government officials and business people. Business contacts should not be limited to export alone, he said. The Prince would also study Zimbabwe's transportation problems, the adviser said. The ZNCC deputy president, Mr Jim Cameron-Dow, said the ZNCC was planning to send a trade mission to Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries on an exploratory trip next year. The Middle East was an area with a good market, he said, and his organisation was looking at the problem of transportation. "We are holding discussions with a number of shipping agencies to use continually the port of Beira which has improved during the last 12 months." [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 "Business Herald" Supplement p 1]

POSSIBLE BULGARIAN JOINT VENTURES--A NUMBER of possible joint ventures were discussed between Zimbabwean and Bulgarian companies at the Bulgarian industrial exhibition which ended on Tuesday and these will be followed up by the individual partners, the director of the pavilion, Cde Peter Ivanov, said this week. Cde Ivanov said local companies showed considerable interest in computer equipment, hoists, electrical instruments and models of production enterprises. "They were particularly impressed by the brick production line which is capable of producing 130 to 150 million bricks per year, and we concluded that it is needed here. They were also interested in our cooling warehouses." The exhibition was a success in the sense that Bulgaria was able to show its industrial potential, he said, and there was an exchange of ideas and information between specialists from this country and Bulgaria. The exhibition featured eight foreign trade enterprises showing scale models of production lines, telecommunications equipment, industrial machinery, computers and household appliances. [Excerpt] [Harare THE HERALD in English 29 Nov 84 "Business Herald" Supplement p 1]

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